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The People.

SUNDAY EDITION.

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER FOR ALL CLASSES.

LONDON, SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 1923.

DRINK & ENJOY
LIPTON'S
TEA

Two Pence

FRENCH GRIP ON INDUSTRIAL GERMANY.

MORE TOWNS TO BE OCCUPIED.

RUHR POLICY OF PASSIVE RESISTANCE.

PARIS TALKS OF REPRISALS.

BERLIN'S COAL SUPPLY CUT OFF

In accordance with her own plan for securing reparations from Germany, France has entered the rich industrial district of the Ruhr and is tightening her grip on the district.

Essen, the first town to be seized by French troops, is reported to be quiet, but the French command is taking every precaution in view of the possibility of disorders to-day, when protest demonstrations will be made.

A policy of passive resistance is being adopted by Germany. France views this attitude with disfavour and she is threatening reprisals.

BOCHUM NEXT.

MORE FRENCH TROOPS MAY ADVANCE TO-DAY.

The march to Essen began in the early hours of Thursday morning, and by nine o'clock the city was occupied.

The French troops of occupation, who marched with full war equipment, including gas masks, are composed exclusively of White units. They include two infantry divisions under General Fournier and General Laignelot and one cavalry division under General Rampon.

There have been no incidents between French troops and German civilians, but martial law has been proclaimed.

The French troops in the Ruhr, says Reuter, are disposed as follows: The first division at Oberhausen, Essen, Recklinghausen and Dinslaken, and the second division at Mülheim, Essen and Mettmann. The Belgians are at Ruhrort, Oberhausen, Bottrop and Bort.

ANOTHER MOVE.

While more troops are advancing into the newly occupied area, says Reuter, there does not appear to have been any extension of the area, although a forward movement from Gelsenkirchen is predicted.

Most of the large halls in Essen have been commandeered for the billeting of troops, but they are inadequate for the purpose, and a number of schools have therefore also been requisitioned, a fact which is eliciting much quiet criticism from the German inhabitants.

Bochum—in whose industries Hugo Stinnes has a predominating influence—may be occupied to-day. It is a town of 150,000 inhabitants, and is the scene of iron and steel works, mines, and other industries. The ammonia and benzol syndicates at Bochum, like the coal syndicates at Essen, have departed to Hamburg.

A message from Essen states that M. Coste, President of the French Commission of Control, has invited the directors of the mining federation (Bergbauverein) to meet him at the Rathaus to discuss ways and means of mining production.

The directors have accepted the invitation and the meeting is taking place.

"CRYING INJUSTICE."

A conference of Premiers of the Federal States, in Berlin, says Reuter, unanimously approved the attitude of the Government in the Reich in regard to reparations and the occupation of the Ruhr.

The Bavarian Premier, Herr von Knilling, declared that the firm attitude of the Government of the Reich against the "crying injustice which France has imposed upon Germany" would meet with the fullest approval of Bavaria and all other German States.

MEETING BARRED.

Berlin, Saturday.—In order to prevent demonstrations in front of the French Embassy, the police authorities have prohibited the monster demonstration organised for to-morrow at the Lustgarten.

Dr. Mayer, German Ambassador to France, will not return to Paris as Ambassador.—Central News.

STOP PRESS.
FOR LATEST NEWS
SEE BACK PAGE.

THE REAL TASK.

FRENCH DIFFICULTIES ONLY BEGINNING.

The French are not finding their task of extracting reparations as easy as they imagined.

A policy of passive resistance has been adopted in the area. A "strike of silence" has been arranged, and there will be protest demonstrations all over Germany.

The occupation is in being, but the real problem of "getting something" has now to be faced.

The inter-Allied Rhineland Commission having decided not to prohibit the sympathetic strike in the occupied territory there will accordingly be a complete cessation of work to-morrow, says Reuter, at 11 o'clock for 30 minutes. This

will include a suspension of the public services with the sole exception of the telegraphs.

In the case of the railways the cessation will be limited to 10 minutes.

This is the first time that the inter-Allied Rhineland Commission have waived the ordinance forbidding strikes, mourning observances of any kind not being held to come within the scope of the provisions.

A semi-official statement, issued in Paris and quoted by Reuter, gives some idea of the present position.

The Germans, it says, are adopting a policy of passive resistance, and are endeavouring to evade attendance at the negotiations to be held at Baden-Baden under the Peace Treaty for the exchange of products between Alsace Lorraine and Germany.

If the Germans persist in this attitude the Allies may have no choice but to take measures of reprisal, and in this connection the first step will probably be an extension of the area of occupation in the Ruhr.

Meanwhile Berlin's coal supply from the Ruhr has been cut off, and it is reported that Stinnes has placed orders for foreign coal to supply the unoccupied area.

The Reparations Commission met in Paris yesterday and postponed the date for the next German Reparations payment—as a provisional measure—from Jan. 15 to Jan. 31.

Sir John Bradbury was present at the meeting of the Commission, and declared he was not opposed to this step.

BRITISH SOLDIER KILLED.

Rifleman Frederick Butterworth, of the King's Royal Rifle Brigade, was killed by a train while on patrol duty in the Neppes suburb of Cologne, says Reuter.

Butterworth belonged to New Barnet. Rifleman George King, who was injured, is expected to recover.

GIRL'S SLEEPWALK TO DOCTOR'S SURGERY.

SHOCK THAT KILLED. MYSTERY OF MEDICINE IN A CUP.

A strange story concerning the death of a doctor's daughter who had apparently been walking in her sleep, was told at East Ham when an inquest was held on Joan Ethel Russell (21), who lived with her father, Dr. John Hutchinson Russell, at 362, Romford-rd.

Dr. Russell stated that his daughter had been in good health. Last Tuesday she seemed well, and was with her sweetheart in the evening. She went to bed, and just before eight o'clock in the morning he found his daughter in a recess with her head towards the pantry. She was clad only in her nightdress. Her body was warm, and artificial respiration was tried in vain.

Dr. Russell said that his daughter once had an attack of sleep-walking, and was subject to bad fainting.

An ordinary tea-cup was produced, and the coroner asked the doctor to look at the brown deposit at the bottom. What did he make of it?

Witness replied that it was very bitter to taste. He also said that he had opium in the surgery. The cup was not in the surgery the previous evening.

Coroner: Did your daughter take much medicine? No; she was not used to doctoring herself.

Can you give any suggestion why she should take anything? I cannot tell.

ENGAGED TO BE MARRIED.

Mrs. Russell, the mother, said that her daughter had never been in the surgery in her life, and did not know opium from anything else. She did not know the drugs or the places in which they were kept. When her daughter walked in her sleep two years ago she went into another room and picked up a book. She knew nothing about it in the morning. She was engaged to be married a fortnight ago.

The coroner (turning to the father) asked him if he could say if the opium preparations in the surgery had diminished?

Dr. Russell: I could not say that one way or the other.

Dr. E. B. Randall said that at the post-mortem examination he found two slight abrasions on the left elbow which might have been caused by a fall. There were no external marks of violence and the internal organs were healthy. Undigested food was in the stomach.

Coroner: Any smell? None whatever. Handed the cup, the witness said that he had tasted the deposit. It was bitter, but he could not say any more.

Coroner: Was there nothing to correspond with it in the stomach? There was a little dark material, but nothing suggestive. He added that he did not think the action of drugs accounted for death. The coroner said that the girl, coming downstairs without her slippers, showed that she was doing something abnormal. She was probably unconscious, and went into the surgery with the cup and took something, the nasty taste of which awakened her and caused a shock.

He registered a verdict of death from syncope, caused by the shock of suddenly awakening from a state of somnambulism.

MISS CONSTANCE COLLIER.

GRAVE ANXIETY FOR HER HEALTH.

Geneva, Saturday.—The condition of Miss Constance Collier, the famous actress, who is lying ill in a nursing home at Terriert, gives rise to grave anxiety.—Central News.

VIOLET HOPSON HURT.

Miss Violet Hopson met with a serious accident while engaged in film production at Epsom.

The horse which she was riding shied at the cinematograph camera and Miss Hopson, who was thrown violently, was rendered unconscious and sustained a number of bruises. She regained consciousness later in the evening at her home.

SIX TIMES BANKRUPT.

For obtaining various sums of money by false pretences, William T. Sumner (44), an accountant, was sentenced at the Old Bailey to nine months' hard labour.

A detective stated that the defendant had since 1899 been made bankrupt on six occasions, and had three times been convicted.

MODERN GIRL PRAISED.

"We are confident that an unwavering faith in the modern girl will be amply justified," said a speaker at a better Empire-building than some of the early Victorian ladies," said Mrs. Hornibrook, one of the founders of the Home Companions for Australia, which has taken an office in Queenborough-terrace, W. where intending women emigrants may be interviewed.

SECRETS OF MYSTERY HOUSE REVEALED.

MRS. MIDDLETON SHOT.

BULLET WOUNDS IN HEAD.

Inquest Disclosures.

STORY OF 5 MONTHS' HIDDEN CRIME.

All that expert evidence could do to reconstruct the strange crime by which Mrs. Alice Hilda Middleton met her death five months ago, in the barricaded mystery house at Park-road, Regent's Park, N.W., was gone through before a coroner's jury at Marylebone yesterday.

It was the house, after a siege by police and balliffs was finally entered, how Cecil Maltby, the tailor-maker, met his death, and how the decomposed body of his passionately adored and too plainly-madly destroyed mistress was discovered in a bath, is fully told in Page 5.

Having regard to the sensational nature of the tragedy, the interest taken in the coroner's inquiry by the general public was remarkably slight. A few men and boys assembled on the pavement opposite to the entrance to the court, but at eleven o'clock there was no suggestion of a crowd.

Detectives and uniformed policemen engaged in the case were the first to arrive at the court some considerable time before the proceedings opened. One of the earliest witnesses to enter the building was Dr. Porter. Later some relatives arrived and hurried into the court, shielding their faces with newspapers from the attentions of camera men.

Newspaper representatives formed the bulk of the spectators of the proceedings in court, only a few members of the general public being able to gain admittance.

The coroner, Mr. H. R. Oswald, sat with a jury. He took his seat at 11.40, and the jury, having been sworn, retired to view the bodies. Superintendent Neill, one of the "Big Four," and Superintendent McKay, reached the court just as the coroner opened the proceedings.

HUSBAND AWAY.

The coroner, in his opening statement, carefully, and with cold precision, outlined the actual facts of the case. Nothing in his address, perhaps, came nearer to the grim horror of these facts than his insistence on the necessity that the jury should be satisfied as to the identification of the body of the woman as that of Mrs. Middleton.

"It is very decomposed in the features," he said, "but there are other marks of identification."

"Mr. Middleton is away from this country and cannot get back for several weeks. It has been suggested that I might have to adjourn this inquiry for his presence. But as he knows nothing about the circumstances of the death I do not see what public object could be gained by bringing you all back here again. I think you will have sufficient evidence without his presence."

Evidence of identification in the case of Maltby was given by his daughter, Miss Ida Maltby, a typist, of St. Paul's-avenue, Cricklewood. She gave her evidence under stress of great emotion, and while in the box was provided with a glass of water.

She said her father was aged 47, and his occupation was that of a master tailor at Park-rd., Regent's Park. The last time she saw him alive was on Christmas Eve, 1922. His health was then quite good.

Coroner: How was he in mind or brain? Quite normal.

Did your mother leave him at that time? No.

Your mother has not been living with him?—He left her living in Park-rd.?

Where was he living at that time?—At Cricklewood.

Was that the time he left her?—He has lived with her for 12 years.

They did not agree, did they, or he?—Yes, he drank a great deal.

Did he support your mother?—Not regularly.

Did he send her any money for the children?—No.

What sort of business had he?—Quite good.

Later?—I cannot say.

It was once quite a good business?—Yes. Did you ever hear of his threatening to take his life?—No.

The next witness was Alfred William Toman, of Lime-grove, Eastcote, Middlesex. He said he was a company secretary. He identified the body of the deceased woman.

Coroner: Was she any relation of yours?—Yes, she was my sister-in-law.

What was her name?—Alice Hilda Middleton.

What was her age?—Thirty-seven last birthday.

And was she a married woman?—Yes. And was the wife of John Middleton.

What is he?—He is a chief officer in the Merchant Service, on the s.s. Maresfield.

Witness said that Mr. and Mrs. Middleton formerly lived at 48, Yale-court, Honey-bush-rd., West Hampstead. That, he added, was their former address, and was the last address that he knew of until he heard the address at 24, Park-rd., from Mrs. Middleton.



MRS. MIDDLETON

Did what you saw of the body satisfy you that it was the body of Alice Hilda Middleton?—Yes.

How long is it since you saw her?—Seven months. There is one other evidence of identification. I saw a portion of her hair. It was the hair I expected to find; dark, but slightly discoloured.

The coroner then asked witness to look at the clothing which had been found at 24, Park-rd., and witness was shown a blue tailor-made costume and two pairs of brown shoes.

Coroner: Can you identify any of those things?—I think the shoes were hers. She had a blue costume but I cannot swear to this one. I think it probable it is hers. The shoes I have certainly seen her frequently wear.

Witness repeated in answer to the coroner that he last saw Mrs. Middleton at the beginning of June, when she was in good health.

Coroner: Had she then formed the acquaintance of Cecil Maltby?—Yes. That was my first knowledge of her having formed an acquaintance with him.

When would her husband leave the country on his ship?—The last time would be the end of July last. That was the last time before we found her missing. She was missing on Aug. 15.

Who saw her last?—My wife, late in June.

Had she left her husband at that time? The previous time he was home she was living with him. She had been with him about a week beforehand—a week before June 26. His ship was in this country for a month or more, when he arrived about the third week in June. He went to Yale-court and a few days afterwards had to rejoin his ship at Cardiff. Then she went down about the end of June, or the beginning of July, and was with him on the ship for some days, afterwards going with the ship to Fowey, Cornwall. She was there with him until about the third week in July.

That was when she left him? That was the last time he saw her. He went away with his ship.

When she left him she took up with Maltby?—I think that must be the case. She gave up the flat at Yale-court on June 24. Her husband knew of this.

How was she going to live?—We did not know.

Have you heard from her husband since July?—Yes, I have seen him. He has been in this country twice.

(Continued on Page 20.)



Then and Now

A miserable wreck three months ago... but look at him now! The clothes are the same, but how the man inside them has changed! Then he was listless and flabby, always tired, never cheerful; he had no appetite, hardly a day passed without a headache; life did not seem worth living. Now look at him!

He carries himself with an assured swing, revelling in every moment of existence. Shoulders squared, eyes clear, appetite keen as a schoolboy's, he sets out each day to the office with a light heart and a cheery grin. He has discovered the way to health and happiness.

How?

Just this way. Good health depends largely upon the condition of the internal system. If the digestive and eliminating organs are not working as they should, impurities find their way into the blood, the whole body becomes sluggish and torpid, and headaches, listlessness, physical and mental depression ensue. Then, more than at any other time, Kruschen salts are needed before the little ills can grow into big ills.

Kruschen is a combination of the six salts the body needs to keep it healthy and vigorous. A small dose every morning—just as much as will be on a sixpence taken in the breakfast cup of tea—quickly restores the liver and kidneys to their proper activity. Taken this way Kruschen Salts are tasteless—you can't tell you are taking salts—but after a few mornings an improvement is noticeable in the whole system. The eyes become brighter, colour returns to the cheeks, every function of the body is performed more efficiently. Headaches and lassitude disappear; you face life anew with the happy self-reliance that results from a healthy mind in a healthy body.

Kruschen Salts make you fit and keep you fit.

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A 1s. 9d. bottle of Kruschen Salts contains 96 doses—enough for three months—which means good health for less than a farthing a day. The dose prescribed for daily use is "as much as will be on a sixpence," taken in the breakfast cup of tea. Every chemist sells Kruschen. Get a bottle to-morrow.

Tasteless in Tea

No. 8.—DOWN AND OUT.

**Author of "Limehouse Nights,"
"London Nights," & "Twilight."**

that they should have the damned and blasted impertinence to pity him! What had he done to be in a situation to be pitied by them—those women who had promised to hug him, love him, kiss him when he came home again? As though he hadn't suffered

screamed. The unforgivable sin he
had been committed. "'Ere—'ere—
mister—gibback—make 'im gibback
mates!" For the first time that day

piece of plate to Captain A. C. de Meester, of the s.s. Yessel, of Rotterdam, in recognition of his services to the shipwrecked crew of the s.s. Swanston, of Cardiff, whom he rescued off Start Point, Devon, on Dec. 22.

The demand for high yielding investments is so persistent that it is generally very difficult to satisfy the requirements of those desiring a high return for the money. The Ordinary shares of Stothard and Pitt would, however, appear to offer a good opportunity to those who do not

5 per cent.; 1914-15, 7½ per cent.; 1915-16, 5 per cent.; 1916-17, 12½ per cent.; 1917-18, 12½ per cent.; and for 1918-19, 1919-20, 1920-21, and 1921-22 12½ per cent., the distribution in each case being free of income tax. The balance sheet at June 30 last showed a total

no. 1 general.

[illegible]

The British Government has awarded a piece of plate to Captain A. C. de Man, master of the s.s. Yserol, of Rotterdam, in recognition of his services to the shipwrecked crew of the s.s. Swanton, of Cardiff, whom he rescued off Start Point, Dorset, on Dec. 25.

MUSIC, PLAYS AND PICTURES

Phyllis Neilson-Terry
The ApolloMatheson Lang in
Dick Turpin's
Ride to YorkTalbot O'Farrell,
The AlhambraTHE WEEK'S OPERA.
WAGNER, BACH, AND MOZART
AT COVENT GARDEN.

Bach's "Phœbus and Pan," Mozart's "The Marriage of Figaro," and Wagner's "Siegfried" were the outstanding successes of the week's opera at Covent Garden.

"Phœbus and Pan," which Sir Thomas Beecham staged with such success some six years ago, is a delightful fragment of musical satire, which loses nothing in its transition from cantata to operatic form.

Its performance the other evening was a singularly happy one, for it brought Mr. Frank Mullings back to the role of Midas and to the British National Opera Company. It was his first appearance after his serious illness, and his ludicrous make-up and impersonation added much to the success of the revival. In the number, "Pan's a Master," Mr. Mullings sang with much vigour and a delicious sense of humour.

The music of Phœbus, usually sung by a tenor, was given very effectively by Miss Juliette Outram. Mr. William Michael also showed humour in his impersonation of Pan, and Miss Doris Lemon, as Minus, sang well, secured with a dainty charm, and her diction was perfect.

For stage presentation a series of dances to airs arranged from Bach Suites have been introduced into the cantata, and these were interpreted in a manner deserving the highest praise. The combination of Bach and Leoncavallo, on the face of it, sounds impossible, but, curiously enough, the delicate music of the former fitted in with the dramatic force of "Pagliacci." It was a programme of contrasts which proved singularly successful.

Mr. Frank Mullings sang Canio in a characteristic manner, and Miss Beatrice Miranda, as Nedda, repeated a very acceptable performance. Once again Mr. Robert Parker made Tonio an insistent factor in the tragedy. He is at his best as the vengeful clown.

Mr. Eugene Goossens added to the enjoyment of both performances by the skill and sympathy with which he directed the orchestra.

"Siegfried" also drew a large audience. The performance was not without its drawbacks, but these were counter-balanced by its merits, the chief of which was the conducting of Mr. Eugene Goossens, and the excellent playing of the orchestra. Mr. Goossens made the motives of the score stand out clearly, and his strength and wonderful sense of rhythm helped the singers considerably in their difficult task.

Mr. Boland's Siegfried was a careful rather than an inspired performance, which lacked the joyous spontaneity associated with the youthful hero. His happiest moments were in the more lyrical moments of the opera, and his acting in the last act had much to commend it.

The Wotan of Mr. Robert Parker was an artistic triumph. He made one forget the tediousness of the fallen god, and won sympathy by his intelligent portrayal. He was happily secured in the music, which suits the quality of his voice.

Mr. Sydney Russell's Mime deserves much praise, and Miss Edna Thornton sang the Erla music with much beauty of voice.

It remained at the end of a long evening for Miss Austral to give us a Brunnhilde of exceptional vocal ability. As an actress the Australian singer has still much to learn, although she has improved in this respect since her first appearance at Covent Garden.

On the whole it was a delicious evening, for which Wagner lovers cannot be too grateful.

"MEDIUM."

AN HYPNOTIC PLAY AT THE
EVERYMAN.

"Medium," by an Austrian dramatist, Leopold Thoma, translated by George Merritt and George Heilbronn, produced at the Everyman, is a treatise on criminal hypnotism. The author is a doctor practising in Austria, who holds a theory that murderers sometimes act while under hypnotic influence.

To develop this theory, he has imagined a more or less familiar story of the "Triangle" order. A married lady has an intrigue with a gentleman of many amours. He possesses the power of hypnotism, which he successfully practices on the lady's husband when he calls to be revenged on his wife's lover.

The lover, who has taken unto himself a new mistress, suggests the husband should go back and kill his wife.

Acting under the hypnotic influence, the unhappy man puts poison in his wife's tea, she dies in his arms. At first apparitions, he is unaware of his action, but when he realises the hideous truth, he does not rest until the instigator of his wife's murder is dead at his feet.

The play has many defects and also its moments of unconscious humour. We found it impossible to believe in a judge who, in a moment of great crisis orders a meal of tea, muffins, and wafers.

Mr. Franklin Dyall's acting as the wife, dead much towards the success of the production. Both performances were remarkable for their strength and artistic restraint. Mr. George Hayes as the lover was properly mysterious and effective.

"Medium" was followed by "The Perfidy," translated from the French of Emile Mazaud by Mrs. Alfred Suter. It was well played by Mr. Harold Scott, Mr. Fred O'Donovan, and Mr. George Merritt.

GREENROOM CHATTER.

Miss Phyllis Timms "Quite Well." Again—Miss Phyllis Timms, who was taken ill whilst rehearsing her part in "Batling Butler" at the New Oxford Theatre, is now quite well again, and will make her appearance in the musical farce on Friday evening next.

The Repertory Players.—On Sunday evening the Repertory Players will present at the Strand Theatre "Coloman," described as a prose play in four acts, set in Hungary in the 13th century, by Edward Percy (author of "If Four Walls Told") and Wallace B. Nichols.

Last Week of Olympia Circus.—This is the last week of the International Circus and Christmas Fair at Olympia. At each display there are 18 acts, and the programme is so arranged that not a moment is lost. At the close of each performance Mirano, "the human torpedo," gives a most daring gymnastic display high over the people's heads.

To-morrow Jack Hylen will present an entirely new version of the highly successful Cabaret Follies at the Queen's Hall Roof. An interesting engagement for this production is Miss Sylvia Leslie and Jack Buchanan. The latter will introduce in the new entertainment "The Dancing Honey-moon," from "Batling Butler."

A Successful Pantomime.—Mr. J. R. Mulholland's new version of "Aladdin" at the King's Theatre has eclipsed all his previous pantomime successes of the past 20 years. To-morrow evening Charles football players will witness the production, and Fred Wolgast, the chief comedian, has gone into strict training specially to show them how to lift the cup.

Partners Again.—Mr. Charles Cochran has concluded arrangements to produce "Partners Again," by Montagu Glass and Jules Eckert Goodman, on Wednesday, Feb. 22, at a West-End Theatre. The leading roles of Potash and Perlmutter will be played by Bob Leonard and Phil White. Mr. Montagu Glass is sailing from New York next week to supervise the production.

A Nearly Forgotten "Polly."—Few of the present generation are aware that another "Polly," a musical play, occupied the boards of the Kingsway Theatre some years ago. The music, by Teddie Solomon, was of a most melodious nature. Although the production did not quite "catch on," it was a piece much above the average (with the exception of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas) of those days.

If Winter Comes for the St. James's.—At last London players will have the chance of seeing A. S. M. Hutchinson's and B. Macdonald Hastings's stage adaptation of the former's famous novel, "If Winter Comes." This will be presented by Messrs. Frank Curzon, Owen Nares, and B. H. Fryer at the St. James's Theatre on Jan. 31. Owen Nares will, of course, play the hero, Mark Sabre, while Barbara Hoff will be the new leading lady.

Miss Sybil Thornehill at the Criterion.—Lady Wyndham and Miss Sybil Thornehill have decided on Thursday, April 25, as the opening date of their new production, when they will present the new comedy, "Advertising April," or "The Girl Who Made the Sunshine Jealous." Mr. Frank Cellier will play the part of Eddie Hobart, the Press-agent husband of April Thornehill, who will be represented by Miss Thornehill.

Popularity of the Scala.—Since Mr. A. E. Abrahams acquired the Scala Theatre he has received no less than 10 applications from various people desiring the theatre, despite the alleged theatrical slump. This is no doubt a tribute to its growing popularity with the pleasure-seeking public. The Quest picture is doing good business, and on Saturday matinee £164, tax excluded, was taken at the doors. During the run of "The Orphans of the Storm" the average takings for the first three or four months was over £2,500 per week.

"The Happy Ending" Ends.—The last performance for the present at the St. James's Theatre of Mr. Robert Lorraine's production, "The Happy Ending," took place last night. The "Happy Ending" took place to continue up to and including Saturday, Jan. 27, owing to the still great demand for seats for special evening performances of "the boy who never grew up" will be given on Jan. 15, 16, 25, and Saturday, Jan. 27, at 8 o'clock.

Co-optimists' New Programme.—When the Co-optimists present their sixth new programme on Thursday next, in addition to some of the old items, which will be retained by special request, they will present several new songs and scenes for all the members of the company. In addition to these fresh items, a series of burlesques will be given, and also a "production" scene, entitled, "The Banks of the Nile," will be specially treated.

A New Musical Play.—Mr. Edward Langford has acquired an original musical comedy, which has been inspired by a "newspaper stunt." Mr. Thompson's heroine is a working girl who wins a newspaper competition intended to discover a British film star. The action passes in London and Hollywood, California. The music will be provided by Mr. Edward Kanmacher, the composer of "The Cousin from Nowhere."

Busy Mr. Robert Courtineides.—Mr. Robert Courtineides has just successfully produced a new musical play, "The Little Duchess," at Glasgow. On or about Feb. 6, he will produce "The Young Idea," a new comedy by Noel Coward at the Savoy. He has a number of other new plays in hand, including a comedy of "great promise," a description by the Marchioness of Townshend. Mr. Courtineides is truly as described a busy man.



VARIETY JOTTINGS.

Wilkie Bard at the Victoria Palace.—Wilkie Bard tops the bill this week at the Victoria Palace. The programme also includes Muriel and Butcher, Chris Richards, Malvina and Jack Stokes.

"The Peep Show" at Finsbury Park.—The London Hippodrome production of "The Peep Show" supplies the current attraction at the Finsbury Park Empire, with Jennie Hartley, Reba, Jean Allister and Reginald Sharland in the principal parts. A feature of the show is the vocal magical ballet, "The Valley of Echoes," of which Samoiloff's "Spectrum Analysis" forms an effective part.

Mr. Charles F. Taylor.—All Pressmen and I am sure a large number of the public will be pleased to hear that Mr. Charles F. Taylor will also act with Mr. George Key in the front of the house for Sir Oswald Stoll at Covent Garden during the run of the forthcoming revue in which Gen. Robey will star. He knows every nook and corner of the old Opera House, having been associated with it for 40 years, till he went over to Old Drury to increase his popularity there as general manager.

New "Trinity Church" was Composed.—Tom Costello's "At Trinity Church I Met My Doom," which I first heard sang at the old Cambridge Music-Hall some years ago, was one of the most successful of the old songs revived by the "Veterans of Variety." Tom once told me that he carried the verses of this song about with him for months without finding a melody suitable to the words, till one day the author of the words and himself found themselves walking behind an odd-looking man with some out-of-the-way maiming of the hip. The strange part of it all was that the man was volubly talking to himself about some alleged domestic grievance.

A "Big" Favorite at the Alhambra.—Talbot O'Farrell has been the "big star" in here ways that one at the Alhambra during the past week, where he has been seen at his best. His sweet singing of "Juan" and "If Winter Comes" was greatly to the taste of the audience, who seemed to never tire of hearing his flow of ready anecdote, quips, and musical numbers. This is as it should be, for the "large man" is just as delightful a companion off the stage as on it. This week he will continue "the good work," in addition to such turns of the first magnitude as "Ebel Levey," "Brandy Williams," and Stanley Logan and Mabel Green in the former's new one-act play, "Mr. and Mrs. M.P."

A Timely Recognition.—The wonderful amount of excellent and variegated work put in by our capable music-hall orchestra is perhaps not quite recognised by the general public. The conductor has an onerous and rather exacting job, and it must be, in my opinion, a fatherly nod to our task at times owing to the unavoidable sameness of the material put in front of him. It is, therefore, good news to all lovers of music that, following the example of the Victoria Palace in giving the orchestra special recognition by making them a special turn on the stage, the Metropolitan orchestra, under the able direction of popular Mr. Leon Bassett, give a special turn on the stage, consisting of the latest syncopated successes. A big attraction of the "Met." programme for this week is the gifted sisters Lorna and Toots Pounds.

A Prophet in His Own Country, Etc.—I am pleased to hear of the success of Will Collinson, as he is a comedian with a bountiful resource of fun, and am not astonished at the continued success of Tom Leamore in the Antipodes. He could not turn to his native land a short time since, and I was quite surprised to see him doing big with his fine dancing and eccentric fun at the London, Strand, where he had no doubt been placed by George Peel, that most discerning of agents. It is a pity that some of the magnates of the variety world did not see eye to eye with O.P. to the effect that we might have seen a little more of the agile Tom in the West End.

Andrew Melville's Brighton Pantomime.—I give a photo of Billy Camp, who, I using the well-known phrase, has been the life and soul of the merry pantomime party at the Grand Theatre, Brighton. Mr. Andrew Melville's "Dick Whittington and His Cat" has achieved a striking success, and has attracted a crowded house. Among the other comedians who merrily made a Harry Cook, Fred Maple and Bert Burnell as Wilkie and Sally, Ally Alberta as the Cat, and Charles Taylor as an impressive Alderman Fitzwarren. Dorothy Moody made a charming Dick and Isabel Dorothy a sparkling Isabel.

Greek, a Clown of Clowns.—Greek, "the clown of clowns," seems to still further strengthen his position as top of the Coliseum bill with each further week of his engagement. I doubt if ever a turn of his character has ever gone better at the St. Martin's Lane variety house than during the past week. Laughter prevailed over minute he was on the stage, and his reception has been on quite the grand scale. His partner Max also deserves a hearty word of praise for the support which he gives this inimitable clown. Alfred Lester, another comedian of a different quality, continued to raise sound mirth in his new sketch. I learn that the Scottish National Theatre Company trailer a mighty sound in the title for the company proper which, I understand, consists of but three persons. Martin's Lane variety house than during the past week. Laughter prevailed over minute he was on the stage, and his reception has been on quite the grand scale. His partner Max also deserves a hearty word of praise for the support which he gives this inimitable clown. Alfred Lester, another comedian of a different quality, continued to raise sound mirth in his new sketch. I learn that the Scottish National Theatre Company trailer a mighty sound in the title for the company proper which, I understand, consists of but three persons.

A Novel Evening's Entertainment.—The success of the "Veterans of Variety" act has been so striking that Mr. Chas. Gulliver, of the Palladium, has arranged with Mr. Albert de Courville for an enlargement of the idea. With a view to this Mr. Gulliver has arranged this week to devote the whole of the evening to a comparison of the old and new time music-hall. The first half of the programme will be an exact replica of a music-hall as it existed a little over twenty years ago, and the second half will be a number of modern turns such as one sees nowadays at the more sumptuous temples of variety. Mr. de Courville is now looking for a chairman of the old-fashioned half, and to add to the realism I hope a large glass of liquid to suit his palate, for choice a bottle of the best juniper juice, and a Broddingnagian cigar, with a gigantic and aggressive band round it to denote its full bodied quality.

Too Stout Smuggler.—Because he appeared to be unusually stout, a revenue officer went up to a sailor at the Surrey Commercial Docks and tapped his belt.

The man, Nicholas Telegen, of the S.S. Heda, was ordered to pay three times the value and duty of the spirit—£25 4s. 9d.—at Tower Bridge Police Court.

No Theatre Slump.—Apocryphal the alleged theatrical slump, it is interesting to note that the New Scala has from the time it was re-opened last year, played to consistently phenomenal business. Since Mr. A. E. Abrahams acquired the Scala recently, large numbers of applications have been received from people desiring to rent this successful house. "The Shackleton Film," which is now being presented at the New Scala, is doing excellent business.

The circulation managers mustered in general force last week at the Knights' Room at Simpson's, in the Strand, on the occasion of their annual dinner. Mr. H. P. Farham, of the "Daily Chronicle," and "Lloyd's News" making an ideal chairman. Following the dinner a first-class programme was given. Miss Marie Claire, a bright little comedienne, sang in charming manner, "What Happened After the Ball," and "He's Mine, All Mine"; Messrs. Wright, Connelly and Mack's rag-time melodies met with a rousing reception, as did Vasco the Mad Musician, who played no less than a dozen instruments with his usual well-known skill. Mr. T. S. Stodole Bennett (the bearer of a honoured name in musical circles) at the piano delighted his hearers with "A Lullabyer's Love Song" and "There's Another Little Girl I'm Fond Of." Mr. Fred Morris gave "Aubrey" in his own droll manner, and Mr. Harry Hall rendered "The Country Nurse," which with its patter caused much of laughter. Mr. Bert Clevely scored with "Don't Let 'Em Scrap the British Navy," Mr. Robert Carr sang "Just Because the Violets" in fine voice, whilst amongst others who entertained were Mr. J. E. Sutton, Will Deller, Alan Stanger, and David Green, the pianist. The programme was arranged by Messrs. E. J. Kallert ("Referee") and Dick Coyle.

From "Down Under."—Will Collinson, of "Papering a Room" fame, writes me from Melbourne, Australia: "You mentioned when I was playing my sketch at the Bedford that I had a good singing voice, and I took that to heart and blossomed forth as a comic singer. I am pleased to tell you that I have made a big hit in Australia, and had some big offers to stay, but unable to accept as I am due on the L.T.V. halls again in August, 1923. This is a fine country, and everyone is so nice to meet. I met Tom Leamore; he is doing big, so is Gus McNaughten."

Tom's Soothing Chorus.—They followed him, and his walk summed up the tune in an embryo melody. After a time he turned round and in a few forceful words told his quondam followers what he thought of them. Costello took it all in good part, sympathised with him, and insisted on him having refreshment at the nearest hotel. I think it was the Russell Arms. There the popular singer gave him his name, and the aggrieved lame man, who was an unknown admirer of the comedian, insisted on Tom there and then singing him a chorus of one of his songs. After that he set forth in detail his trouble in marrying late in life on a straitened income, and hence the most successful number that Tom Costello ever sung came into being.

Macketyne's Doing Big Business.—Macketyne's are doing record business with a very bright programme. To-morrow Nelson Jackson joins the company, in place of Mr. W. V. Robinson, who has been aptly described as "The Mouth-Organ King." The latter has made himself a great favourite here, and has just completed the first series of mouth-organ and tin whistle for a well-known gramophone company. They are a brilliant success, and present a new revolution in the most successful mouth-organ playing once they get round.

Bert Coote's Enterprises.—Mr. Bert Coote's daring to back his own judgment and produce a show with entirely his own capital has been amply rewarded, for the Victoria Palace has been packed to capacity at matinees for his performance of "The Windmill Man." Those who want to see Fred Bowyer's dainty playlet should hurry up, for the present season closes on Saturday week.

CONCERT NOTES.

A number of British and Continental composers, including Arnold Bax, Lord Berners, Eugene Goossens, Ebel Smythe, and Igor Stravinsky, have arranged a dinner to take place at Paganini's Restaurant on Sunday evening, Jan. 21, in honour of Mr. Edwin Evans, the well-known musical critic. Tickets can be obtained from the Hon. Sec., Room 84, 175, Piccadilly, W.2.

Beethoven's Choral Symphony, sung by the Bach Choir and several eminent soloists, is the chief attraction of the Queen's Hall, on Jan. 22. Other items in the programme are Wagner and Bach-Elgar works. Mr. Eugene Goossens will conduct.

A welcome return to London will be made on Jan. 27 by the brothers Leo, Michel, and Jan Cherniavsky, who will give a violin, cello, and piano recital in Wigmore Hall. The famous trio have not been heard here for nine years as they have been fulfilling successful tours all over the world, except England.

The gifted English pianist, Mr. Herbert Fryer, is devoting a whole week to Chopin recitals. They will take place in Solihull Hall from Jan. 22 to Feb. 2. A word for lovers (and their name is legion) of the great Polish composer's music.

A delightful programme of madrigals, canzonets, ballets, etc., has been arranged for the concert in Solihull Hall which will be given by the English Singers on Jan. 27. On Tuesday evening, the famous male voice quartet known as the Graham Singers are giving a concert in Wigmore Hall.

Miss Ellen Terry's "Call."—Miss Jean Forster Mackintosh is giving a special matinee in aid of the The Braille and Servers of the Blind League at the Steinway Hall on Friday next. This is in support of Miss Ellen Terry's eloquent "call" on behalf of the League, who are preparing to open a beautiful little home for mentally defective blind children. Those kindly people who would like to support the appeal should communicate with the office of the League at 3, Upper Woburn, London, W.C.1.

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LAST PHASE OF ILFORD CRIME.

EXECUTION OF FATAL LOVERS.

Mrs. Thompson's Hysteria BYWATERS' FINAL CIGARETTE.

THE curtain was rung down on the Ilford drama with the executions at Holloway and Pentonville of Mrs. Edith Thompson and Frederick Bywaters, who were convicted of the murder of Percy Thompson, the former's husband at midnight on Oct. 4.

Mrs. Thompson was hanged at Holloway at 9 a.m. on Tuesday morning, and her lover at Pentonville at the same hour.

A woman, Mrs. Elizabeth Cronin, the chief witness, Mrs. Thompson's execution and afterwards gave evidence at the inquest.

In marked contrast to Bywaters, Mrs. Thompson went to her doom in a state of prostration. She had been in a condition of collapse nearly all the previous night and was continually under the doctor's care.

When the hour for the execution arrived she was in a dazed state, only partially conscious, and unable to walk, so that she had practically to be carried.

The doctor was in attendance almost up to the time of the execution.

In moments of consciousness she asked for Bywaters.

Mrs. Thompson's composure, it is said, deserted her directly the last interview with her relatives ended on the day before the execution. For some time she was in a state of hysteria, and had to be medically attended.

All the women officials who have been engaged in watching Mrs. Thompson felt the strain acutely.

On the morning of the execution Mrs. Thompson was awakened at a few minutes to eight o'clock. In a dazed way she dressed herself and nibbled at a slice of toast and an apple, a breakfast of her own choice.

She laid the food aside almost untouched when the executioner, Ellis, entered the cell at two minutes to nine, and gave way to distressful moaning. It was not until 9.35 that the official notice stating that the execution had been carried out was posted outside the prison. It read:—

"We, the undersigned, hereby declare that the judgment of death was this day executed on Edith J. Thompson in his Majesty's prison at Holloway."

Hamilton Gepp, Under-Sheriff. G. Murray, Chaplain. J. H. Morton, Governor."

The posting of this notice had been awaited by a crowd of 5,000, some of whom had taken up their positions as early as 7.30.

Among the early arrivals was a woman who carried a placard bearing the words: "Murder cannot be abolished by murder."

PARENTS AT INQUEST.

As the time for the execution approached the police force was augmented, and shortly before nine o'clock the crowd had grown to several hundreds. So dense did it become that at the request of the police the League of Intercession abandoned a service which had been arranged.

The Under-Sheriff of Essex (Mr. Hamilton Gepp) arrived at the prison soon after eight o'clock, and a little later was joined by the prison chaplain.

As each minute after the official hour passed and no notice of the execution was posted, a curious feeling passed over the crowd.

"Has anything gone wrong?" was the question that occurred to everyone, but when the chaplain came out at ten minutes past nine suspicion was allayed.

For an hour previously an elderly woman, who refused to disclose her identity, had been silently pacing the drive leading to the prison.

She stopped the chaplain, spoke a few words, and then, with tears streaming down her cheeks, hurried away.

Mr. and Mrs. Graydon, Mrs. Thompson's father and mother, were present at the inquest on their daughter. They were accompanied by a friend of the dead woman's sister, Mr. Graydon identified the body of his daughter.

"WORK SICKNESS."

CURIOUS MALADY AFTER LONG ILLNESS.

It has been declared by the chairman of St. Mark's Insurance Committee, Mr. G. Slack, that an illness known as "work sickness" has attacked large numbers of men returning to work after a long spell of idleness.

He has been inundated, he says, with benefit claims by a large number of workers who after one or two years of the idleness have resumed work, only to collapse after two or three weeks.

The symptoms of the malady, he says, are neurasthenia, through the sudden return to a cramped existence and prolonged concentration after the freedom and vagabondage of the workless period.

"GLORIOUS."

"I have had a glorious time, and I have spent or lost the money," said James Duckworth (24), a soldier, when charged at Aldershot with breaking into the canteen at the Field Store, Aldershot and stealing £4.3s. and cigarettes.

Duckworth, who had eight years' good service to his credit, was sent to gaol for six weeks.

DEAD ASTRIDE GATE.

When climbing over a wooden gate near his home at Aberdeen, Mr. John Meldrum fainted. He grasped the top bar of the gate to steady himself, but in that position died. Shortly afterwards his body was found seated astride the gate.

RUINED A GIRL BANK CLERK.

GAOL AND DEPORTATION FOR GENERAL'S SON.

"You have ruined Miss Barter by your conduct," said the Old Bailey Recorder, Sir Ernest Wild, in sentencing Alphonse Auguste Paul Marie Robert Getteman, the son of a Belgian General, to nine months' imprisonment in the second division.

Getteman, who was also recommended for deportation, had pleaded guilty to bigamously marrying Miss Barter, a clerk at the London bank at which he was employed as an accountant.

Mr. G. D. Roberts, for the prosecution, said Getteman was married near Brussels in 1912, and there was one child. He married Miss Barter at Clapham in 1917.

A few days before the wedding Miss Barter found a photograph of his wife and child, but he assured her he had never been married.

His wife came to see him at the bank in 1919, and he then denied that he was married to Miss Barter.

Getteman, in a written statement, said that he married a waitress in Brussels while he was at the university because he was "tired and miserable and had lost hope of redemption. He thought that the marriage was not legal in England, and that he was free to marry Miss Barter.

OTHER DUPES.

"I suspected that Getteman was married," said Miss Barter, "because of letters and postcards arriving from Belgium. At the request of my solicitor his real wife came over to this country, and I then informed the police."

Det.-sergt. Raddiford said that Getteman, after leaving the bank borrowed £300 to set up in business as a turf adviser, and £50 from a Highbury woman to become a photographer. Both businesses failed.

He became engaged to a young woman of Balham, and arranged to marry her in April last. He borrowed a few pounds from her, and the engagement was broken off.

In 1920 he made the acquaintance of a girl of 19 living at Wimbledon. He met her in consequence of the breakdown of an omnibus, and saw her home. He asked her to wait for him for four years and then marry him.

Miss Barter, recalled, said, "Getteman threatened that if I tried to get a separation he would shoot me, my mother, and himself."

Getteman said: "I wish to express my deepest regret for the injury I have done to Miss Barter. I intend to make full reparation."

WORLD'S LARGEST PHOTOGRAPH.

RUBBER-BOOTED BOY PLACED IN DEVELOPING TANK.

To Dr. Frank M. Woodruff, Curator of the Chicago Academy of Sciences, belongs the distinction of having completed the world's largest photograph.

Measuring 96ft. long and 10ft. high, it is composed of eight immense panorama photographs each 12ft. by 10ft. Printed in natural colours the photograph shows a panoramic view of part of the Lake Michigan shore, and is intended to form the background of a natural history exhibit at the Academy.

Each section of the photograph is an enlargement from a negative measuring only 8in. by 10in.—all taken by Dr. Woodruff.

For development an immense tray was built and four men dragged the sections backwards and forwards through the chemical solutions; while a boy wearing rubber boots (to protect the surface) climbed into the tray and assisted the development by means of a swab mounted on a broom-handle. The cost of producing such an immense picture is stated to be less than £50.

BIG HAUL OF ARMS.

TWO MEN AND A BOY ON REMAND.

Patrick Walsh, an elderly man, and Patrick Courtney, aged 59, and his 16-year-old son John, were remanded at Liverpool Police Court on a charge of being in unauthorised possession of arms.

The police stated that they found 10,000 rounds of ammunition, six revolvers, a machine-gun, and a large quantity of detonators and explosives in a house in Saltney-st., near the docks.

Mr. Howard Roberts, prosecuting, said it was alleged that the arms and ammunition were intended for the use of irregulars in Ireland.

Walsh and the younger Courtney were packing ammunition into bags when the police entered the house.

The elder Courtney said he would take responsibility, but his son said, "You will not; this is a young man's fight."

Only a few weeks ago a similar haul was made a few hundred yards away from this house.

"DOWN AND OUT."

ERNEST BARRY'S BUSINESS LOGGED WHILE ABROAD.

Ernest Barry, who recently resigned the world's sculling championship, was at Brentford granted his discharge from bankruptcy, but the judge suspended the order for two years.

According to the Official Receiver's report, Barry's liabilities were £1,730, and his assets £25. A dividend of 3d. has been paid.

Barry's position was attributed to the fact that while in Australia for his sculling match a large sum became due to the brewers in respect of his business at the Fox Inn, Twickenham.

Barry also embarked on a bookmaker's business with others. He took no part in it, but became involved in a liability of £1,173.

Asked if he had anything to say, Barry replied: "I am down and out; I am practically stranded, and my athletic days are almost over."

QUEER MARRIAGE PROBLEM.

SCOTTISH GIRL AND HER LASCAR LOVER.

A marriage knot that cannot easily be tied is puzzling the Dundee registration authorities.

Natha Lakha, a lascar fireman, is anxious to marry his Dundee sweetheart, but the ceremony is not quite so simple as the couple would wish.

The ordinary religious marriage has been ruled out of the question by one striking fact—neither bride nor bridegroom professes any religion!

A civil marriage is therefore contemplated, but although Lakha has lived in Scotland for eight years he has not yet mastered the English language. He has sufficient knowledge of it to carry on ordinary conversation, but he cannot satisfy the authorities that he fully understands the legal phraseology of the marriage, and the responsibilities he desires to assume. Therefore they declare an interpreter must be found.

There is another complication. Natha Lakha cannot write in English characters. This further handicap makes still more necessary the intervention of an interpreter.

But another problem is to find the interpreter. It might be possible to find a ship's officer with the necessary qualifications; but would such a man, having a close acquaintance with lascars, be willing to undertake the task?

It is well known that such men usually hold strong views on the question of race and colour.

Consequently the marriage has still to take place, and will be completed at the Sheriff's Court as soon as a suitable interpreter is forthcoming.

LIBEL BY RIDICULE.

TURF AGENT'S ATTACKS ON SOLICITOR.

Damages of £10 were awarded Mr. Bertram Ewart White, a solicitor, against Mr. William Robinson, turf commission agent, of Yale Court, Hampstead, in the County of London Sheriff's Court.

The sheriff pointed out to the jury that it was not a case of awarding heavy damages, but of teaching Robinson that he could not be allowed to annoy persons by ridiculous libels.

It was explained that Mr. White's firm had acted for a client in an action against Mr. Robinson which had been settled out of court, and that Mr. Robinson had since borne a grudge against Mr. White.

It was complained that Mr. Robinson sent Mr. White the following mock legal notice:—

Re White of 1908. In the High Court of common sense, world's division, between Be White (plaintiff) and William Robinson (defendant).

Take notice that a writ of inquiry into the scarcity of clients will be executed on Sunday, 1st day of April, 1923, at the hour of eleven of the cock-a-doodle-doo in the forenoon at Yale Court in the borough of Hampstead, in the county of London, when and where counsel had better appear on behalf of the said Plaintiff (with a capital P) aforesaid.

Other libels were contained in letters to Mr. White's client in the action referred to. One read:—

Don't let White get you to burn your fingers. You are good game for a lawyer, for you are so easily led. . . . Lawyers are hungry sharks. . . . Have a bit on Beaguard for the next big race he runs in. It will pay you better than law, and you cannot lose much.

Robinson once addressed a communication to "Be He White." That, said counsel, was obviously a play on the words, "Is he a white man?" "Ha, ha, he is—Is this libel?" was another message alleged to have been posted to Mr. White.

PRISON FOR PARENTS.

FIVE CHILDREN EARLY NEGLECTED.

For neglecting their five children Alfred Ernest Hudson was at Rochester sentenced to four months' hard labour and his wife to three months' imprisonment.

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There was a novel innovation at Harrogate Rotary Club luncheon when children of members were invited to express their opinion on their parents.

The secretary's daughter, Miss Mortimer, said that fathers had no originality in punishment, but simply punished as they themselves were punished years before.

QUEER MARRIAGE PROBLEM.

SCOTTISH GIRL AND HER LASCAR LOVER.

A marriage knot that cannot easily be tied is puzzling the Dundee registration authorities.

Natha Lakha, a lascar fireman, is anxious to marry his Dundee sweetheart, but the ceremony is not quite so simple as the couple would wish.

The ordinary religious marriage has been ruled out of the question by one striking fact—neither bride nor bridegroom professes any religion!

A civil marriage is therefore contemplated, but although Lakha has lived in Scotland for eight years he has not yet mastered the English language. He has sufficient knowledge of it to carry on ordinary conversation, but he cannot satisfy the authorities that he fully understands the legal phraseology of the marriage, and the responsibilities he desires to assume. Therefore they declare an interpreter must be found.

There is another complication. Natha Lakha cannot write in English characters. This further handicap makes still more necessary the intervention of an interpreter.

But another problem is to find the interpreter. It might be possible to find a ship's officer with the necessary qualifications; but would such a man, having a close acquaintance with lascars, be willing to undertake the task?

It is well known that such men usually hold strong views on the question of race and colour.

Consequently the marriage has still to take place, and will be completed at the Sheriff's Court as soon as a suitable interpreter is forthcoming.

LIBEL BY RIDICULE.

TURF AGENT'S ATTACKS ON SOLICITOR.

Damages of £10 were awarded Mr. Bertram Ewart White, a solicitor, against Mr. William Robinson, turf commission agent, of Yale Court, Hampstead, in the County of London Sheriff's Court.

The sheriff pointed out to the jury that it was not a case of awarding heavy damages, but of teaching Robinson that he could not be allowed to annoy persons by ridiculous libels.

It was explained that Mr. White's firm had acted for a client in an action against Mr. Robinson which had been settled out of court, and that Mr. Robinson had since borne a grudge against Mr. White.

It was complained that Mr. Robinson sent Mr. White the following mock legal notice:—

Re White of 1908. In the High Court of common sense, world's division, between Be White (plaintiff) and William Robinson (defendant).

Take notice that a writ of inquiry into the scarcity of clients will be executed on Sunday, 1st day of April, 1923, at the hour of eleven of the cock-a-doodle-doo in the forenoon at Yale Court in the borough of Hampstead, in the county of London, when and where counsel had better appear on behalf of the said Plaintiff (with a capital P) aforesaid.

Other libels were contained in letters to Mr. White's client in the action referred to. One read:—

Don't let White get you to burn your fingers. You are good game for a lawyer, for you are so easily led. . . . Lawyers are hungry sharks. . . . Have a bit on Beaguard for the next big race he runs in. It will pay you better than law, and you cannot lose much.

Robinson once addressed a communication to "Be He White." That, said counsel, was obviously a play on the words, "Is he a white man?" "Ha, ha, he is—Is this libel?" was another message alleged to have been posted to Mr. White.

PRISON FOR PARENTS.

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When there are Saucepans to clean—let Vimmy take your place.



EVERY housewife is proud of her cooking; it's gratifying to see an appetising meal appreciated by the family, but it means there are lots of pots and pans to clean—a task she does not appreciate. Leave them to Vimmy—he'll clean and polish them all without any trouble.

Vim is splendid for cleaning all cooking utensils; whether they're iron, steel, copper, brass or earthenware, Vim will make them all bright and clean. Use Vim for cleaning woodwork, stonework, oilcloth and linoleum, cutlery and crockery.

IN SPRINKLER-TOP CANISTERS

Of all Grocers, Stores, Oilmen, Chandlers, etc.



When things are dim—Just give 'em VIM.

LEVER BROTHERS LIMITED, PORT SUNLIGHT.

£100 for correct solution of OXO PUZZLE

Here is a fine amusement for the winter evenings—to solve the OXO puzzle, with the excellent chance of winning £100.

The OXO Triangle Puzzle consists of 25 small triangles, which have to be formed into one large triangle in accordance with the rules supplied with each puzzle.

It is most fascinating, elusive and ingenious, yet so simple to handle that even an intelligent child could solve it.

Post your application at once, and see if you can solve the puzzle.

Each application must be accompanied by the wrapper from a 1s. 11d. (or larger) bottle of OXO and two 1d. stamps for postage. Address OXO Ltd., 43, Thames House, London, E.C.4

In order to give competitors an equal chance all puzzles will be despatched on the same day, on or about the 26th January, 1923.

If more than one correct solution is received within the period allowed by the rules the £100 will be equally divided among the successful solvers.

OXO PRICES.
10s. • 7/6
5s. • 3/6
4s. • 2/11
2s. • 1/6
10s. • 5/6

An OXO a day keeps illness at bay

OXO

THE

ACE of every one is much to be desired, although it is a common thing to find anything like an ace in a pack of cards. It is always rather high, but so well and last a long time to pay more in.

The best way to win a large sum of money is to play a game of chance. It is a game of chance, but it is a game of chance, and it is a game of chance. It is a game of chance, but it is a game of chance, and it is a game of chance.

Robinson's Patent

FREE C

valuable for both strongly mounted on brass strips and users of

ROBINSON'S PATENT

ROBINSON'S

return for label (or tin or packet) of ROBINSON'S CO. with name, address, and postmark. Send to: ROBINSON'S CO., 10, FINSBURY PARK, LONDON, N.1.

KEAT

THE WASHING OF LACE.

(Conducted by MIMI.)

LACE of every sort and description is much used nowadays, but although it is considerably less expensive than it was formerly, it is always advisable to purchase lace in as good a quality as possible, even if the initial expense is rather high, but as good lace washes well and lasts a long time it is preferable to pay more in the first place.

The best way to wash wide white or cream lace is to soak it on a towel, keeping a straight line at the edges. Immerse the towel in warm water, wring it out, and press it between the hands until the lace appears clean. Rinse it in cold water, wring it out, and press it between the hands until the lace appears clean. Rinse it in cold water, wring it out, and press it between the hands until the lace appears clean.

When black lace becomes very dirty and brownish in colour it is better to wash it in soap lather, then rinse it in deep blue water, to which gum water has been added. Dry and iron in the same way as ordinary lace.

STIFFENING PROCESS.—Lace that requires stiffening should be allowed to dry before dipping it in starch, which has been divided into two parts, dissolved separately in cold water. Boil one half, let it cool, and into it stir the other half cold. Then dilute with cold water to the consistency of cream. Dip the lace in this mixture and squeeze it out gently without wringing. Now lay it flat on the left hand and beat for a few minutes with the right hand to work the starch well in; repeat twice, and roll the article in a clean cloth. After one or two hours pin it out and shake before it is quite dry. To remove creases, dab once lightly with a sponge moistened with water and a few drops of starch, and iron again. After having gone over the whole length of lace pull it out crosswise from left to right and from right to left and iron once more.

Lace that has become discoloured with age may be restored to its original whiteness by first ironing it lightly, then folding it and sewing it into a clean linen bag, which is placed

for 24 hours in pure olive oil. Afterwards the bag is to be boiled in a solution of soap and water for fifteen minutes, then well rinsed in lukewarm water, and finally dipped into water containing a slight proportion of starch. The lace is then taken from the bag and stretched by pins to dry. When quite dry it will be as good as when first bought.

THE HELPING HAND.

BOOT BLACKING.—A brilliant blacking for boots and shoes can be made in the following manner: Take a pint and a half of vinegar, half a pint of black ink, 4 oz. of blue, 2 oz. of gum arabic, and 2 drachms of isinglass. Break up the blue into a pot, pour over it one pint of vinegar, and let it stand until quite soft. Crush the gum slightly and put it into another pot; pour the ink over it and let it stand until thoroughly dissolved. Place the isinglass in a basin with sufficient water to cover it, and place it near the fire for an hour or so. When these three ingredients have all arrived at the desired softness pour the blue into a saucepan, pour the remaining vinegar over it, and stir over a gentle heat until it is completely melted and well mixed with the vinegar. It must not come to the boil. Then add the gum and ink mixture. Go on stirring until just before the boiling point is reached. Next pour in the isinglass, remove the saucepan from the fire and pour the liquid into jars. When required, pour out as much as is wanted, heat it, and apply it with a brush. The quicker the boot dries the brighter and more lasting will be the polish.

Vinegar or stale beer added to ordinary boot paste will improve the quality and add to its brilliancy. (By request.)

MARKS ON WALL PAPER.—Oil marks and marks where people have rested their heads can be removed from wall paper by mixing pipe-clay with water to the consistency of cream, laying it on the spot and letting it remain until the following day, when it can easily be brushed off. The mark, unless it be of very old standing, will be found to have vanished.



No. 59.—Simple frock for little girls, 12, 24, 44 years. The sailor collar, cuffs and hem are faced with contrasting material. The sleeves are set into low armholes. A slit fastening is arranged under a knotted tie down the centre front.

No. 60.—Smart double-breasted coat, with silk or velvet collar and

cuffs. A three-quarter inch belt confines the fulness at the waist and the sleeves are set into ordinary armholes.

No. 61.—Dainty slip-on Camisole. The neck yoke is fashioned of lace and three pin tucks are arranged each side of the front. It is gathered with an elastic at the waist.

No. 62.—Practical Gym. Tunic for girls, 8-10, 10-12, 12-14, with three box-pleats back and front and a loose giraffe at the waist. The fastening is arranged on the shoulders or can be slipped over the head. A simple shirt blouse is given with the tunic.

STOCK POT OF KITCHEN LORE.

In all households where economy is studied, as well as in those who prefer the home-made to the manufactured article, marmalade making will shortly be taking place. As many kitchens as boast preserving pans, so many are there recipes. Nearly everyone has their own pet one. Here are two or three tested and extremely good methods. In each case choose large oranges with clean skins.

THICK ORANGE MARMALADE.—Take 2 lb. of Seville and 1 lb. of sweet oranges. For every 5 lb. take one lemon. Wipe the fruit; place it in a preserving pan. Cover with cold water and bring to the boil. Pour off, replace with boiling water and cook until the oranges can easily be pierced with a knitting needle. Drain. Cut the fruit into thin slices, rejecting the pips. Put the pulp back in the preserving pan with one quart of the last water in which the oranges were cooked and 2 lb. of sugar. Simmer for half an hour. Heat 2 lb. of sugar, add it slowly to the preserving pan, stir until it is dissolved. Boil gently until the marmalade sets when tested in the usual way.

SEVILLE ORANGE MARMALADE.—Remove the peel from 4 lb. of Seville oranges, and as much of the adhering white skin as you can. Put white skin and the pips into a basin and cover with water. Cut the rind into long narrow strips and break up the pulp. Put the sliced rind and pulp into an earthenware pan. Add three quarts of boiling water and leave for 12 hours. Place in a preserving pan, add the water in which the pips were soaked, straining it first through a muslin. Boil until the rind is soft. Add 8 lb. of heated sugar and boil until the marmalade thickens and sets when tested in the usual way. The double quantity of sugar is needed on account of the amount of water used.

TANGERINE MARMALADE.—For this 12 tangerines and two lemons are required. Wash and wipe the fruit, pare the oranges very thinly, and the lemons thickly; the lemon rind is not required, and only about two-thirds of the orange rind, which must be cut into very thin shreds. Weigh the fruit and the necessary amount of sugar together, cut the oranges and lemons into small pieces, removing all the pips. Allow two pints of water to every pound of fruit, place in a bowl, and steep for 24 hours.

Boil the orange pips in a little water for half an hour, strain. After the fruit has soaked sufficiently boil the pulp and water slowly for two hours. Add the sugar, the strained pulp into a basin and leave for some hours. To every quart of pulp allow 1 lb. sugar. Boil 40 minutes, or until clear. Place in jars, cover and store in a cool place.

ECONOMICAL MARMALADE.

Cut eight Seville oranges and two lemons into thin strips. Remove the pips and tie them up in a muslin bag. Put the sliced orange and lemon into a large bowl, add eight pints of water. Allow to stand for 24 hours. Place in a preserving pan with the muslin bag of pips, which should be tied to the handle of the pan by a long string to keep it secure, and boil for an hour. Add 8 lb. of preserving sugar, bring to the boil again, and boil rapidly until the marmalade sets when tested in the ordinary way.

COCOANUT PUDDING.—Ingredients: 2 oz. of flour, the same amount of breadcrumbs, and chopped beef suet; 4 oz. of desiccated coconut, 2 oz. of sugar, the yolks of three eggs, and half a gill of milk. Method: Mix all the ingredients well together, adding the eggs and milk last of all. Pour into a buttered basin and steam for one hour. Serve with sweet sauce.

POOR KNIGHTS.—Ingredients: Two or three stale rolls, 2 oz. of sugar, half a pint of milk, one egg, a little cinnamon, and a few breadcrumbs. Method: Cut the rolls into rounds half an inch thick, boil the milk with the cinnamon, eat up the egg and add the sugar; then pour the boiling milk over the egg and sugar. Dip each round of roll into this custard two or three times, sprinkle with very fine breadcrumbs, and fry in boiling fat until they are a pale brown colour. Arrange them on a dish, put a spoonful of bright-colored jam on each, sprinkle with sugar and serve.

STEAMED MARMALADE PUDDING.—Mix well together 2 oz. each of breadcrumbs and finely chopped suet, 2 oz. of castor sugar, and a small pinch of salt. Beat an egg, stir into it 2 oz. of orange marmalade, add enough milk to moisten the whole. Stir into the dry ingredients, mix well, pour into a buttered basin, and steam for about an hour and a quarter.

Address: orders, PATTERNS, etc., "The People," 489, Oxford Street, W.1.

The following patterns are kept in stock: 20, 24, 44 years, 8-10, 10-12, 12-14, 14-16, 16-18, 18-20, 20-22, 22-24, 24-26, 26-28, 28-30, 30-32, 32-34, 34-36, 36-38, 38-40, 40-42, 42-44, 44-46, 46-48, 48-50, 50-52, 52-54, 54-56, 56-58, 58-60, 60-62, 62-64, 64-66, 66-68, 68-70, 70-72, 72-74, 74-76, 76-78, 78-80, 80-82, 82-84, 84-86, 86-88, 88-90, 90-92, 92-94, 94-96, 96-98, 98-100, 100-102, 102-104, 104-106, 106-108, 108-110, 110-112, 112-114, 114-116, 116-118, 118-120, 120-122, 122-124, 124-126, 126-128, 128-130, 130-132, 132-134, 134-136, 136-138, 138-140, 140-142, 142-144, 144-146, 146-148, 148-150, 150-152, 152-154, 154-156, 156-158, 158-160, 160-162, 162-164, 164-166, 166-168, 168-170, 170-172, 172-174, 174-176, 176-178, 178-180, 180-182, 182-184, 184-186, 186-188, 188-190, 190-192, 192-194, 194-196, 196-198, 198-200, 200-202, 202-204, 204-206, 206-208, 208-210, 210-212, 212-214, 214-216, 216-218, 218-220, 220-222, 222-224, 224-226, 226-228, 228-230, 230-232, 232-234, 234-236, 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THE STRANGEST STORY OF LOVE AND DESPAIR.

FOR five days and nights Scotland Yard officers and police kept vigil outside the house of Maltby—a red-fronted establishment used as a tailor's shop at 24, Park-rd., Regent's Park, N.W.—before they finally forced their way in, and the house yielded up its tragic secret.

The strange and eerie mystery dates back to June of last year, when Mrs. Alice Hilda Middleton, who formerly lived at 46, Yale-court, Honeybourne-rd., West Hampstead, N.W., went to live at the house of James Maltby.

In August she disappeared, and since then nothing was heard of her until the shop in Regent's Park revealed itself as a sinister house of death.

Mrs. Middleton, who was 38, was the wife of a chief officer in the Mercantile Marine. He was away from home for a considerable part of the year. Returning from a voyage last June, he found that his wife had left her flat and had gone to live at Mr. Maltby's.

About a month ago Mr. Middleton returned from another voyage and then

GRIM SECRETS OF BARRICADED HOUSE. HERMIT TAILOR'S FIVE MONTHS' WITH CORPSE AS COMPANION.

Rarely if ever in the annals of crime has one of London's thousands of commonplace houses yielded such a tale of grim romance and tragedy as the red-fronted residence in Park-rd., Regent's Park, of Cecil Maltby, the tailor.

The "siege" of the shop by the police ended in the despairing suicide of the man at their moment of entry and solved the mystery of the disappearance of Mrs. Alice Middleton, wife of a Mercantile Marine officer.

Her body, in an advanced state of decomposition, was found in a bath. She had without doubt been dead for months, and Maltby, in a desperate attempt to conceal the dreadful secret, had lived with the corpse for five months.

The real story of the mystery house may have been carried to the grave, but "The People" is able to show what manner of individuals were this man and his mistress and how an unromantic love affair led to such a sinister conclusion.

discovered that his wife had been missing from the rooms in Park-rd. since Aug. 15. He communicated with the police, who circulated a description of the woman, but without finding her. He is now on the high seas bound for Siam. The woman had regularly drawn her husband's monthly allotment of about £18 a month from his pay up to the time of her disappearance, but since then she had not drawn a penny.

Maltby was a man of about 55. He has been established as a tailor at Park-rd. for many years, and formerly he had a lucrative and high-class business, which had previously been carried on by his father. The latter, it is stated, put a tailoring creation before King Edward when Prince of Wales that interested him very much, and to the tailor's delight became very fashionable.

Mr. Maltby had a wife and six children, but three or four years ago they went to live in another part of London. For over a week before the final scene in a gruesome drama of mystery—a mystery which London has not seen the like of for many years—the front door of the tailor's shop in Regent's Park was locked and barricaded.

So far as can be ascertained Maltby during this period had not once left the house, and how he managed to exist is one of the extraordinary features in the case.

Before the actual "siege" of the place, Scotland Yard men had a short conversation with Mr. Maltby, who assured them that he was unable to throw any light on the mystery. He would not come out, however, and the detectives contented themselves with pacing up and down the road, keeping close watch, during which time they occasionally caught glimpses of the man at one of the windows. Once Maltby was seen late at night examining the window fastenings on an upper floor by the light of an electric torch.

Again he peered through the curtains, but, seeing the police still on watch, hastily dropped the curtains and vanished. Repeated knockings and telephone calls by the police met with no response.

Neighbours, it is stated, had handed the man a little food, but water and gas supplies were cut off from the house, and, according to the neighbours, the tenant lived the life of a hermit within. The whole atmosphere of the place was lifeless, and spoke of neglect. In the shop window a few rolls of suitings were displayed, and beyond that one could see dimly several suits spread on hangers. The upper windows looked begrimed, and thick yellow curtains were drawn across them.

At the back the house opens on a little blind yard, access to which can only be gained by climbing over a shed.

BURST IN.

FINAL SCENES IN THE GRIEFSOME DRAMA.

The final act of the drama of death began when application was made before the Marylebone magistrate for a warrant authorising the sanitary authority to enter the premises.

With this authority, armed police, under Supt. Mackay, went to the house in Park-rd., and forced an entry. The glass panes in the door were smashed by a crowbar, and the door battered down. The bald statement of Scotland Yard told of the sequel in a brief space. It said:

At 1.15 p.m. the police and the Medical Officer of Health for Marylebone forced an entry into 24, Park-rd. They proceeded upstairs to the top floor front room, where they saw the body of the occupier, Cecil Arthur Maltby, lying dead on the bed, with a bullet wound in the head.

He had apparently just committed suicide, as a revolver was in his hand. In the back room on the same floor in a bath they found the dead and decomposed body of a woman, supposed identical with Mrs. Middleton.

The body was wrapped in bed linen, and had apparently been dead several weeks, or possibly months.

Immediately the news of the discoveries became known, rumours began to spread that the police suspected other bodies might be buried in the building and were starting digging operations. Supt. Wensley, however, stated definitely that these rumours were without foundation.

Maltby had obviously made up his mind to commit suicide the moment the police entered the house. The notes found on the premises indicate that he meant to adopt this course.

The police were aware that Maltby possessed a Colt revolver, from the fact that

he had taken out a licence for the weapon. They would not have been surprised if he had turned the revolver on the officers when they entered the house before shooting himself.

A crowd of some 2,000 people were in Park-rd. when the police arrived. Inspector Cornish knocked at the shop door. There was no response, and the order was given to break open the door. A crowbar was used in an attempt to force an entry, but finally the glass panes were smashed. An officer scrambled through the aperture into the passage and found the door heavily barricaded with chairs and tables.

These articles were soon cleared and an entry secured. Yet another door was then found barricaded, and this again had to be forced. The officers then broke through and on the first floor found dining and drawing rooms. These they entered but no one could be seen.

THE HERMIT'S FATE. Up to the next floor the party went, and at the door of the front bedroom they halted. Here Inspector Cornish called out: "Maltby! I am Inspector Cornish. Open the door." There was no reply and the door was forced open. The hermit tailor Maltby they found lying in bed with the clothes still over him, and dressed in pyjamas.

There was a bullet wound through his head and a revolver was grasped in his hand. He was already dead, although the fumes from the discharge still lingered in the room.

The detectives and a doctor who was with them, made a hurried examination of the body. One man was despatched to a neighbouring chemist for restorative, although there were no hopes of their efficacy.

A crowd of several hundred people hung around the shop after the discovery was made. The police had difficulty in keeping them in check. A few minutes after seven a hearse drew up, and a number of undertakers' men entered the house.

There was great difficulty in getting the two bodies down the narrow stairway. A mahogany coffin was carried in for Maltby, but the body of Mrs. Middleton was removed in the bath just as it was found.

To accomplish this, it was necessary to cut through the pipes connecting the water-pipes with the bath, and also the waste vent.

A quantity of bed linen was then piled on the body, and the whole tied up with two bindings of rope. The police assisted the undertakers' men to carry the bath downstairs, and at the narrow turns in the staircase the united strength of all was necessary.

When the bath had been deposited in the funeral van, Maltby's coffin was brought down and placed on top of it. The van then drove off to the Marylebone mortuary in Paddington-st. W.

Late in the afternoon detectives had driven away from the house in a cab with a large quantity of correspondence. They also had a number of articles in a basket, including a pair of women's shoes.

MESSAGE ON BODY. The body of Mrs. Middleton, for whom they had been searching for months, was lying in the bath with her back resting on a pillow.

The body was in a terrible state of decomposition and but for one peculiarity in her teeth, it is stated, it would

have been almost impossible to identify her. The body was unclothed but was covered with a sheet.

Maltby had evidently been taking his meals in this room within a short distance of the corpse—he had lived for some five months with the woman's body!

On the corpse was lying a piece of paper upon which Maltby had written in red chalk:

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
MY DEAR PAT,
WHO COMMITTED SUICIDE ON
AUG. 24, 1922.

Six or seven other notes were found in various parts of the house. Some were pinned to the wall and scrawled in red chalk or ink, while one or two were typewritten.

Further discoveries included a series of letters written by Maltby. The house was in a state of filthiness, which defies description. Not a scrap of food was to be seen; water, gas, and electric light were long ago cut off.

What happened some time in August in the upper rooms of the building, where Maltby carried on his business, is a secret which the grave may never reveal.

Maltby's body was in an emaciated condition and badly nourished, and it was evident that he had had little food for a considerable time.

It is understood that on the premises were found two portmanteaux belonging to Mrs. Middleton, which Maltby had previously said she had taken away with her.

DIARY OF THE DRAMA.

June, 1922.—Mrs. Middleton left her home at Hampstead and went to live as Maltby's lodger.

Aug. 15.—Maltby said he saw her off at Paddington to join her husband at Plymouth.

Aug. 24.—Supposed date of her death in Maltby's house. Relatives began search for Mrs. Middleton.

October.—Maltby's water cut off. Jan. 4, 1923.—Maltby at a whist drive at Shepherd's Bush.

Jan. 5.—The house barricaded.

Jan. 8.—Scotland Yard issued a description of Mrs. Middleton after trying to interview Maltby.

Jan. 10.—House entered; Maltby shot himself; the woman's body found.

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THE POLICE ARE OUTSIDE. There is only one thing left for me to do, and that is to join my darling upstairs.

None of these letters throw any light upon the cause of Mrs. Middleton's death.

Suicide, it would appear, was ever present in his mind. Again and again he refers to his determination to meet Mrs. Middleton in death. This fact was revealed by the police search among the furniture and belongings both in the bedrooms and the two living rooms on the first floor.

It some cases Maltby had evidently just thought of an acquaintance whom he wished to be remembered to, in other messages the farwell element to relatives enters, but he does not suggest how the end of Mrs. Middleton was brought about.

The police also discovered an old pair of tailor's scissors. They are of the big-bladed variety which cutters use in their trade. They were very rusty, and it is not at present possible to say whether they have any association with the crime.

Most of the letters which Maltby left behind have been handed over to the solicitors.

"MY FIVE KIDS." Among the letters found was one written to a prominent Freemason, which ran:—

"My dear Brother,—

"I am in very great trouble. My dear little girl, Mrs. Middleton, committed suicide here on Aug. 24.

"I have been demoralised, not knowing what to do.

"I have put the dear little soul in the bath, and am now going to hop it and join her.

"We were such pals. Why she did it I do not know.

"Had been gambling very heavy, and lost all her money, but even then that was a difficulty we could have got over.

"My solicitors are — I have left a parcel in my bedroom addressed to them. In it, amongst other things, are two original letters of Charles Dickens to my grandfather.

"I have consulted them (the solicitors) and send them to Brother Dickens to be sold by auction at the dinner or dinner you have, as they ought to fetch a bit.

"The Masonic books you have of mine, keep in remembrance of me.

"I have instructed my solicitors to sell everything and divide the spoil between my five kids and Mrs. Middleton's nephew.

"There ought to be a few hundreds each for them, as I have some lovely stuff here, and if realised properly ought to fetch a good bit.

"Good-bye, old boy.—Yours,

"Cecil A. A. Maltby."

A 1911 Coronation medal inscribed with the words "Royal Masonic Benevolent Inst." was enclosed with the letter, and a postscript read: "My old people's jewel. Please accept."

HOW THEY MET.

"PATSY'S" CHANCE PARTNER AT A WHIST DRIVE.

(By a Woman Friend.)

Mrs. Alice Hilda Middleton, who was 38, was a daughter of the late Mr. Douglas Durrant, house-furnisher, of 25, Carfax, Horsham, Sussex.

She had three sisters. One is dead, another lives in Canada, and one lives in a London suburb. Her two brothers carry on the furnishing business at Horsham.

She lived with her parents at Horsham until she was about 18. She then obtained employment at a drapery establishment in London. Soon after she came to London she met Mr. John Middleton, who was 10 years older than herself.

On April 24, 1904, they were married at the Parish Church, Horsham, and shortly after the wedding came to London to live. Her husband, who was in the Merchant Service, was away for months at a time. In these periods Mrs. Middleton frequently visited her mother at Horsham, but about six years ago the mother died, and Mrs. Middleton, so far as is known, had not visited Horsham since.

Mrs. Middleton's gambling propensities had gained her a place in the front rank of a coterie of inhabitants of the western suburbs of London whose main pursuits are horse-racing, card-playing, and other things of a speculative nature.

Besides being a familiar figure at racem meetings, she constantly attended whist drives at which big money prizes were offered. It was at one of these that she first met the man in whose house she was found dead.

The story of the meeting was told to a representative of "The People" by a woman, herself an ardent follower of the turf, who had accompanied Mrs. Middleton to many race-meetings and whist drives.

It happened early last summer, Mrs. Middleton—or "Patsy," as we always called her—and I were at a whist drive

STRANGE MESSAGES.

MALTBY'S REFERENCE TO "DEAR LITTLE GIRL."

Close searches by the police in the house of mystery led to their discovering more than 30 letters, each of which had been written on different dates.

They had been placed in nooks and crannies in the various rooms, some in the leaves of books and others in articles of clothing.

What is undoubtedly the last missive penned by the unhappy man was pinned on the inside of the room where Maltby was found shot.

Written on a small sheet of notepaper it said:—

There is only one thing left for me to do, and that is to join my darling upstairs.

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HOW THEY MET.

"PATSY'S" CHANCE PARTNER AT A WHIST DRIVE.

(By a Woman Friend.)

Mrs. Alice Hilda Middleton, who was 38, was a daughter of the late Mr. Douglas Durrant, house-furnisher, of 25, Carfax, Horsham, Sussex.

She had three sisters. One is dead, another lives in Canada, and one lives in a London suburb. Her two brothers carry on the furnishing business at Horsham.

She lived with her parents at Horsham until she was about 18. She then obtained employment at a drapery establishment in London. Soon after she came to London she met Mr. John Middleton, who was 10 years older than herself.

On April 24, 1904, they were married at the Parish Church, Horsham, and shortly after the wedding came to London to live. Her husband, who was in the Merchant Service, was away for months at a time. In these periods Mrs. Middleton frequently visited her mother at Horsham, but about six years ago the mother died, and Mrs. Middleton, so far as is known, had not visited Horsham since.

Mrs. Middleton's gambling propensities had gained her a place in the front rank of a coterie of inhabitants of the western suburbs of London whose main pursuits are horse-racing, card-playing, and other things of a speculative nature.

Besides being a familiar figure at racem meetings, she constantly attended whist drives at which big money prizes were offered. It was at one of these that she first met the man in whose house she was found dead.

The story of the meeting was told to a representative of "The People" by a woman, herself an ardent follower of the turf, who had accompanied Mrs. Middleton to many race-meetings and whist drives.

It happened early last summer, Mrs. Middleton—or "Patsy," as we always called her—and I were at a whist drive

STOMACH-ACHE TO-DAY— DYSPEPSIA TO-MORROW!

It begins with, perhaps, a feeling of fullness after eating, or a disinclination to eat anything at all, or, maybe, a sudden spasm of stomach-pain. Then commences serious digestive disorder, and quickly dyspepsia takes you in its grip. Authorities say that in over ninety cases out of every hundred the cause of both the same stomach-ache and the more deep-seated dyspepsia is acidity of the stomach, usually accompanied by food-fermentation. That this is so is proved by the fact that Bismarck's Magnesia, an anti-acid, gives positive and instant relief. Bismarck's Magnesia Tablets neutralise the harmful acid, prevent food-fermentation, and so stop stomach-pain and ward off serious indigestion. Bismarck's Magnesia Tablets are not merely a remedy for simple stomach disorders, however, for they have an unrivalled record of success in dealing with cases of the most severe. You can get these tablets of any chemist at 1s. 3d. a box, but send you get "BISMARCK'S" Magnesia Tablets as nothing else is "just as good." Bismarck's Magnesia tablets doctors prescribe for all cases of indigestion, and thousands praise the good around.

BISMARCK'S MAGNESIA is the best remedy for indigestion, and is also obtainable in powder form.

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Rheumatic Pain

Stopped like magic

There's nothing like Sloan's Liniment for stopping Rheumatic pain of any nature. You who have been suffering the tortures of Rheumatism for years... in joints and muscles... read this striking testimony to the wonderful pain-killing power of Sloan's.

"RHEUMATISM IN ALL ITS FORMS." Mr. J. Brown, Albert Street, Tottenham, writes:—"For the past two years I have had the three years of war hardship exposure brought home to me with a vengeance. Rheumatism attacked me in all its force, and I have tried everything. It was not until I discovered Sloan's Liniment that I knew what relief was. A cruel disease has been banished by your wonderful liniment. It seems to act like magic."

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RECKLESS GAIETY OF MALTBY AND HIS MISTRESS.

GAMBLING AND EXTRAVAGANT HABITS WHICH BROUGHT RUIN.

(Continued from page 8.)

at the Adelphi Rooms in Edgeware-road. Before the interval Maltby became Patsy's partner, and in the course of the game exchanged a few remarks with him.

"We thought nothing more of him until the affair was over when, going into a neighbouring hotel for refreshment, we saw him sitting on a lounge with another man.

"Maltby smiled at us and we went over and spoke to him again. Mrs. Middleton bought drinks for herself and me and we continued talking.

"I noticed that he addressed most of his conversation to Mrs. Middleton and I was rather left out in the cold.

"A MEAN FELLOW."

"Eventually Patsy and I left the place and I remarked to her: 'What a mean fellow. Fancy talking to us like that and not offering to buy us anything.' She agreed that it was mean and added that she considered him anything but nice-looking.

When next I met Patsy she surprised me by telling me that she was 'going out to tea with that fellow we met the other evening.' At first I did not understand what she meant, but she soon made it clear that she was referring to Maltby.

"After that they were always to be seen together. They went to race-meetings, and I have often seen the two of them at whist drives at the Shepherd's Bush Baths.

"Patsy was very well known there. She was always beautifully dressed and invariably had a cigarette in her mouth. She had a habit of sticking the cigarette between two of her upper teeth and of talking with it in her mouth.

"She was immensely popular. She evidently had been well educated. Although she mostly spoke upon racing matters she could also converse intelligently on subjects of general interest.

PATSY'S DISAPPEARANCE.
"In addition to this she was decidedly pretty and possessed attractive manners. It was not long, however, before I noticed a change in her. She had always been a broad-minded woman and a thorough sport.

"While, formerly, she would enter a public house and have a drink, she would not indulge too freely in that direction. 'Soon I heard that she was becoming an habitual saloon bar. Then it became common knowledge that she was to be found in such places at all times of the day and night.

"Once I asked Maltby 'Where is Patsy?' and he replied 'She is in the—spotting the winners.' The man, who was by no means sober, added that he had left her in the hotel because he had grown tired of waiting for her.

"Then suddenly we missed Patsy from the whist drives. Night after night Maltby would come without her. Once I asked him what had become of her. He gave me an evasive answer and ever afterwards avoided my company.

"Most of us knew that Patsy had a husband at sea. I recollect that once Mrs. Middleton told me that she was going to Cardiff to meet her husband, whose boat had put in there.

LETTERS FROM CARDIFF.
"While she was in Cardiff, presumably with her husband, she was carrying on a correspondence with Maltby. He showed me letters he had received from her.

"Most of the money which Mrs. Middleton received from her husband went on horse racing. She was extraordinarily lucky, and had the reputation of being 'in the know.' She was always giving good tips.

"On more than one occasion she spoke to me in a manner which indicated that she was on very friendly terms with certain trainers. Sometimes—generally when she had received a remittance from her husband—she was to be seen in the Tattersall enclosure.

"At other times she would frequent the 'silver ring,' and I have often known her to be one of the ordinary crowd."

THE LAST SUP.

Mrs. Lephart, whose husband keeps a shop next door to Maltby's, said: "About 12 o'clock (about an hour before his death) I gave Mr. Maltby a cup of tea. He asked it to him over the veranda. He said: 'Thank you very much. As soon as I am dressed I shall go and see the police.' That is the last I saw of him."

GIRL FOOTBALLERS.

AUSTRALIAN CRICKETERS' CONSERVATION.

According to the book published by Mr. Sydney Smith, junr., on their triumphant tour of England in 1922, the Australian cricketers hold strong views on the subject of girl footballers.

The author states that the team were invited to watch a match at Bradford between girls of 17 to 24 years of age, representing two factories.

"After seeing the game for about 15 minutes," he writes, "we were quite satisfied that it was not entertaining or elevating. It is hoped that this form of amusement among the future mothers of England will not be encouraged."

"There are plenty of other forms of pleasure for girls of this age, and it was, in my opinion, degrading to see an audience, composed mostly of young men, loitering and gawking during the whole time play was in progress."

"MAD HARRY."

WOULD-BE DON JUAN'S WASTED LIFE.

(By One Who Knew Him.)
Every one, wrote Cervantes, is the son of his own works. The remarkable life of Cecil Maltby, ended by his own hand in the barricaded house at 24, Park-rd., Regent's Park, furnished striking proof in support of the statement.

His father, James Maltby, the man who built up the prosperous tailoring business which his son ruined, had his eccentricities, but he was a steady, industrious old gentleman: Cecil's eccentricities, on the other hand, took the form of excesses to such an extent that he used to be known in certain circles as "Mad Harry."

His was a tragic career of wasted opportunities and mistaken notions.

He himself thought he was a Bohemian. Actually, he mistook profligacy for Bohemianism. Nor did he realise, apparently, that the border line between profligacy and degeneracy is dangerously narrow, especially when a man's outlook ceases to extend beyond a desire for "women, wine and gambling."

RECKLESS GAIETY.

He was not perhaps handsome, but he was blessed with good looks. A sturdily-built man of about average height, his square-cut chin and the shaggy eyebrows shading his piercing eyes suggested strength of character and a determined temperament. But he was self-willed only—far from strong-willed.

To those who knew him and his "affairs" with women, he was regarded as a would-be Don Juan, but while he certainly seemed to conquer the hearts of a number of women he never succeeded in conquering himself. He paid the penalty.

Until a year or so ago, reckless gaiety and loose living had treated him kindly. In so far as it still permitted him to appear considerably younger than he was, but recently he looked more than his age of 44, and his changed appearance would have amazed those who knew the debonair Maltby, either in the West-End or when he attended Masonic gatherings and, on occasions, contributed to the musical programme.

Prior to the war his extravagant habits and attraction for fast life were noticeable. He was associated with a woman's costume and cloth business, but his mode of private life can best be imagined from the statements that he kept two homes as well as a motor-car and a brougham. He served in the Army, and it was in 1918, when his father died, that he was left the Park-rd. tailoring business and substantial means, believed to have run into some thousands of pounds.

RUINED BUSINESS.

Unfortunately, he had no interest in business. He had often confessed it. He had a far greater interest in racing, and he was fond of spending money—no earning it. The business had a high-class clientele, the customers including Peers and M.P.s, and Mr. James Maltby had specialised in the making of riding habits and similar work.

His son's inattention had a gradual, but none the less certain effect. Even when he was at Park-rd., it is said, he had a far keener eye for any pretty woman who was passing than for the demands of his customer, and he was better pleased to attend race meetings or perform "stunts" on his motor-cycle than devote himself to his shop.

From time to time he fell under the fascination of various women. What need to go into details? It is really enough to comment on the dead man's life that one of his employees, referring to Mrs. Middleton, once said to him: "This bird has been a long while on the perch. Isn't it time you had a change?" But in this case, Maltby was not so sure that he wanted a change, for Mrs. Middleton exercised over him a far more lasting spell than the women to whom he had previously paid court.

As a matter of fact, the others were all young. There was a pretty French girl with brown hair and eyes, who believed to have been employed at a shop in the West-End. She stayed at the Park-rd. premises more than once, and apparently Maltby was very fond of her. Also he was credited with a great fancy for a young woman engaged in a Government office, and referred to as "Miss R." To her he used to telephone in order to make appointments. And so long as he had any money he carried out the plan which he said gave him most pleasure—to spend money without stint.

MEASURING THE STARS.

EASIER TO WEIGH THEM THAN FIND THEM.

The intricacies of astronomical science were made quite clear by means of simple experiments when Professor H. H. Turner dealt with "The Size of a Star" in the last of a series of lectures at the Royal Institution on "Six Steps up the Ladder of the Stars."

The sun and the moon, he said, seemed to be about the same size, but the sun was 400 times further away, and therefore 400 times larger than the moon.

It looked as if it were not possible to know the size of the stars until Michaelson, the American, showed how to adapt a small telescope to a system of mirrors. In that way the first star, Alpha, in the constellation of Orion, was measured, and found to be 400 times as large as the sun.

It was hoped to measure a smaller star in the future. Far easier was it to weigh a star than to find the size of it, said the lecturer.

POLICE BLUNDER ALLEGATION.

SUDDEN COLLAPSE OF LETTERS CASE.

There was a sudden collapse of the case at Brighton Police Court, in which Frederick Charles Partridge, a clerk, William Henry Clark, a commission agent, and Mrs. Grissie Evans were charged on suspicion with the theft of 3,400 letters.

Det-insp. Taylor stated that a reply had been received from the Postmaster-General stating that he did not wish to proceed any further in the matter.

Counsel for Mrs. Evans said that police were now satisfied that her explanation was an accurate one.

Counsel for Clark (Mr. Carpenter) submitted that the police had made a very serious blunder. It was a new law to him that persons could be arrested haphazard when they were perfectly innocent and above the breath of suspicion.

For Partridge, Mr. Grinstead stated that the police, though apparently having no evidence against him, took him to the cells, took his finger prints, and his property. He thought the cost of the defence should be paid by the police.

Det-insp. Taylor said if Clark and Partridge had given a satisfactory account of the letters, instead of denying all knowledge of them, only the letters would have been seized, and statements would have been taken from defendants.

Mr. Carpenter: Is it not scandalous that the police should ask to withdraw the charge and then stand up and try and make out a case?

The chairman (Sir John Baker) said that the magistrates, after considerable hesitation, and by a majority, had decided not to grant costs.

The case was then dismissed.

DOCTORS WHO DOPE.

DENIAL OF A STARTLING ASSERTION.

"The drug habit is rampant in the medical profession owing to pressure of work, one out of every four medical men being drug addicts."

Such was the startling assertion quoted by Dr. Harry Campbell at a meeting of specialists at the headquarters of the Medical Society of London.

Those most subject to become addicted to drugs, he said, were of the unstable and neurotic type; indeed, some neurotics, if not actually insane, were on the border line.

It was little use attempting to treat those belonging to the strictly degenerate or weak-willed class. These were obviously cases for custody.

To lock up a person against his will simply meant that he would revert to the habit when he was released.

The statement has been emphatically contradicted by leading members of the medical profession.

Dr. A. Cox, medical secretary of the British Medical Association, describes it as a "gross libel" and a "perfectly monstrous assertion," while Sir Alfred Fripp refers to it as "absolute rubbish."

"The authority from which I quoted was a book written by Dr. Oscar Jennings, and published in 1909," said Dr. Campbell in a subsequent interview. "I cannot support the assertion from personal experience," he added.

MET AT AN HOTEL.

STORY OF AN INTERRUPTED ROMANCE.
A meeting at the Savoy Hotel, London, had a sequel at Leamington, when a young couple were charged under the Aliens' Order, 1920.

Olga Mezria Nova, or Downes, was charged with failing to register, and Aubrey John Graham Wigan was summoned for aiding and abetting.

A constable said that he examined the register at a boarding-house at Leamington, and saw that defendants had entered themselves as Mr. and Mrs. Wigan.

The woman admitted that her proper name was Downes, but he had reason to believe that she was a Russian subject.

The couple had been living together, but Wigan had declared that he would marry the woman when the opportunity presented itself.—The woman said that as they intended to be married they did not do anything about registration.

The case against Wigan, who said he was introduced to the woman by an airman at the Savoy Hotel, was dismissed. The woman was fined £5.

LIFE LIGHTLY TREATED.

SUICIDE INCREASE.

TROUBLES SHOULD BE MET BRAVELY.

The increasing number of suicides through no apparent reason was referred to by the Lincoln City coroner at an inquiry into the death of Violet Clarkson, aged 15, whose body was found in the canal.

In this case and in others, said the coroner, there were instances in which people had ended their lives deliberately for no reason whatever. He could only put it down, to the pressure at which everybody was living, and that people's minds were not so well balanced as they used to be.

It was a serious matter. He did not say it in the case of this girl, but on teachers and clergy and ministers who had to do with the upbringing of people and to do with the guiding of them through life there was a considerable responsibility, he thought, to teach quick-mindedness, and to teach people to be plucky, and to know that there was no need to be upset or disturbed at the least thing.

People took the responsibilities of life so lightly that the least thing upset them. It was true that there had been a period of stress since the war, but there was the greater need for cultivating mental calmness and tranquillity in difficult circumstances.

WORRIED ABOUT THE SED.

Evidence showed that the girl had been in service for about two years, and on Jan. 2 she rose about seven in the morning and was seen by her employer. Later in the morning two notes were found on the table, stating that she was going to drown herself. Her parents were informed, and a search was made along the canal bank without, however, any result.

The father, giving evidence, stated that he had never heard his daughter threaten to drown herself.

Mr. J. C. Irving, who lodged at the house where the girl was employed, stated that when he got downstairs there was a note on his plate, written on a scrap of paper, to the effect that his breakfast was ready. On looking about he discovered another note, which ran: "Dear mistress, I have gone to drown myself. I am worried about my bed."

Witness then looked into her bedroom, and discovered that some of the bed had been burnt and was in disorder.

The coroner said the girl evidently thought something of her mistress by the crosses at the end of the letter she had left.

The jury returned a verdict that the girl committed suicide whilst in a fit of depression.

TOOK 25 ASPIRINS.

MAN'S DEATH FROM SLEEPING SICKNESS.

At an inquest at Leicester on George Oliver Lewis, Dr. Pegz said the cause of death was sleeping sickness.

The coroner asked if the fact that the man had taken 25 aspirin tablets in one day would account for his being unconscious. Dr. Pegz said it might do so, but he had no doubt about the real cause of death.

Mrs. Lewis, the widow, said her husband took aspirin tablets for head pains and finished a bottle in one day. The next day he took some pink tablets.

The coroner said it was remarkable that Lewis survived taking 25 aspirin tablets in one day. He returned a verdict according to medical evidence.

TINNED ASPARAGUS.

DESTROYED BY ORDER OF SANITARY AUTHORITIES.

About 15cwt. of tinned asparagus which had been landed at Dover has been destroyed by order of the port sanitary authority because the asparagus was found on analysis to contain 2.1 grains of tin per lb.

Dr. McMaster, the medical officer of health for the port, stated to the Health Committee that the acid in asparagus dissolves the interior of tins rapidly. He considered that the inside of tins intended to contain asparagus should be lacquered.

RISKED LIFE FOR LOVE.

PRETTY MOSLEM'S DASH ACROSS BOSPHORUS.

A secret marriage, for which the bride risked her life under the Turkish law, took place in Constantinople between a young British officer, stationed there, and a pretty Turkish girl from Scutari.

The girl, who, despite laws prohibiting even friendship between Turkish women and Europeans, had been meeting her lover secretly, escaped at night from her home, and, crossing the Bosphorus in a small boat, sought refuge with friends in the house where her fiancé and a brother officer awaited her.

The British Consul previously refused to marry the couple, and the ceremony was performed by the chaplain of the Bridgman's regiment, who first baptised the bride.

As she had incurred the death penalty by becoming a Christian, she and her husband immediately left for a Western capital, and lay down they were safely across the border.

To facilitate their flight, the bride wore a smart Parisian hat instead of the traditional black veil which Turkish custom compels women to wear to hide their faces.

LUNATIC WIFE.

HUSBAND DENIES SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS.

Extraordinary allegations as to the treatment of a lunatic wife were made at Southport Police Court when John Aughton, a farmer, of Bakers-lane, Southport, was summoned for an order to contribute to his wife's maintenance in a lunatic asylum.

The relieving officer stated that when he visited the house prior to Mrs. Aughton's removal, he found her fastened in a room in total darkness; and a big iron bar had been placed across the door, which was also tied with rope.

She had broken a window in the attempt to get out, a barn door having been put across the window.

Mrs. Aughton was walking about in an almost nude condition.

Defendant strongly denied these statements. His wife, he said, had the best room in the house, and was treated with every kindness.

She had been away previously for 15 years, and he got her back. She had never been locked in a room.

Two witnesses stated that Mrs. Aughton had received the utmost care and attention.

An order was made for the payment of £13s. 4d. a week towards the wife's maintenance.

WIDEAWAKE CHEMIST.

MAN GIVEN BORAX INSTEAD OF STRYCHNINE.

Following a quarrel with his sweetheart Emil Teichert, a naval stoker, went to a chemist's shop and asked for an ounce of strychnine.

Being suspicious, the chemist gave him borax, and, it is alleged, he went to the cliff and drank it.

Teichert appeared before the Dartmouth court, when it was stated that the police arrived in time to prevent him throwing himself over the cliffs.

A charge of attempted suicide was withdrawn, and he was remanded to await a naval escort. An examination of the sediment found in a glass disclosed only borax.

WHAT RUFFIANS FEAR.

RECORD ON THE EFFICACY OF THE "CAT."

Commenting at the Old Bailey on the fact that not a single case of robbery with violence had been sent for trial the Recorder (Sir Ernest Wild, K.C.) said:

"It seems good to those who impose sentences to employ the power given to them—I have used it myself on several occasions—to order the 'cat,' and I hope and believe that it is largely due to the condign punishment that has probably been meted out that we find an entire cessation of this class of offence."

The 'cat' is a punishment that can be inflicted in very few cases, and it is never inflicted without the greatest care and discrimination, but apparently it is the one thing that ruffians fear.

CUT THIS OUT.

Famous Specialist's Receipt for Catarrhal Deafness & Head Noises

If you know someone who is troubled with head noises, or catarrhal deafness, cut out this formula and hand it to them and you will have been the means of saving some poor sufferer, perhaps, from total deafness. Recent experiments have proved conclusively that Catarrh is a constitutional disease, and that the majority of cases of deafness and head noises were the result of this disease. This explains why osteopathic, curative, and insular remedies temporise with the complaint, and seldom, if ever, effect a permanent cure. Since this fact was fully established much time and money have been spent by a noted specialist in perfecting a pure, gentle, yet effective tonic that would quickly dislodge all traces of the catarrhal poison from the system. The effective prescription which was eventually formulated and which has around the belief that deafness will soon be extinct, is given below in understandable form, so that anyone can treat themselves in their own home at little expense.

From your chemist get one ounce of Farnham (Double Strength). Take this home and add to it 1 pint of hot water and 4 ounces of sugar or 2 dessertspoons of golden syrup or honey, stir until dissolved. Take one dessertspoonful four times a day.

A decided improvement is sometimes noted after the first day's treatment. Breathing becomes easier, while the distressing head noises, headaches, dizziness, and ringing, gradually disappear under the tonic action of the treatment. Loss of smell, taste, defective hearing, closed nostrils and mucous membrane in the back of the throat are other symptoms which suggest the presence of catarrh, and which are often overcome by this efficacious treatment. Nearly 90 per cent. of all our troubles are now known to be directly caused by catarrh, therefore there must be many people whose hearing can be restored by this splendid home treatment.

GRAVES

STAINLESS SULLY AND IMPROVED QUALITY TABLE PLATE.

This Stainless Sully Plate offers the luxury of genuine stainless cutlery at a price which is well within the reach of all. **FINEST CUTLERY VALUE IN THE WORLD.**

The Stainless Sully Plate is made of the finest quality stainless steel, and is guaranteed to last for ever. It is the only plate that is not only safe for the health, but also for the pocket.

Write for Catalogue of prices. Sheffield Cutlery. (Including stainless steel and Electroplated Table Plate.)

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LADIES

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THE PARAGON STORES, 14, GIRLINGTON ROAD, BRADFORD, YORKS.

30 GENUINE HOUSEHOLD ARTICLES FOR 19/6.

This well-known firm intend to make their name and goods popular in every home in the United Kingdom, and are offering, for a short period this wonderful Sale of Bargains for 19/6 only, carriage paid to your door (the further payments at 10/).

OUR MOTTO IS SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR MONEY REFUNDED IN FULL.

CONTAINING
1 pair BEAUTIFUL HEAVY WHITE YORKSHIRE BLANKETS (Full Size).
1 pair LONG NOTTINGHAM LACE CURTAINS (Beautiful Quality and Design).
1 pair GOOD HEAVY THERMAL TOWELS.
1 pair FINE QUALITY LADIES' STOCKINGS.
1 pair GENT'S SOCKS, Etc.

And other Valuable Household Articles (in all 30) too numerous to mention. **£1,000** will be paid to any customer proving that the following testimonials are not absolutely genuine. The originals along with receipts can be seen at our Head Office any time.

Fill in the order form and send 19/6 TO-DAY.

This Order Form is all that is necessary, it must be written in full. To the PARAGON STORES, 14, Girlington Road, Bradford, Yorks.

PLEASE WRITE PLAINLY.

I wish to secure one of your BARGAIN SALES, as advertised. Carriage Paid for 19/6, for which I enclose Postal Order, and I understand that there are NO POSTAGE PAYMENTS AT ALL.

Full Name.....

Full Address.....

Nearest Railway Station.....

GUARANTEE.—Should the Sale not give me satisfaction, on returning same to your warehouse you will return my 19/6 in full without any deductions whatsoever.

MATCH

In future the passages are to be more brilliantly lighted, and the probability is that the visitations will cease.

hobby. As a financier he was responsible for the reorganisation of the Carnegie Steel Corporation, and, in his early days, with the assistance of his brother, he formed great corporations with a capital of nearly £40,000,000.

This week the committee will deal with the cost of meat, and it is believed that the National Farmers' Union will have some important evidence to bring forward.

A Shore-ditch landlady (to Judge Clust)
Whenever I complain to my tenant about
the nuisances she creates she sings at the
top of her voice, "You have to have it
whether you like it or not."

The woman added that on several occasions her husband had blackened his eyes and that she "took care to keep him out of the house, so no one saw."

Bay Bapt
the first v
a church
Miss Le
was train
and at fir
to China

MATCH-SELLING TENOR TELLS HIS STORY.**EMBANKMENT NIGHTS. ROMANTIC RETURN TO THE STAGE**

Vivid stories of his days of hardship and his sufferings when reduced to match-selling in Piccadilly Circus were told to a representative of "The People" by Mr. Noel Fleming, the brilliant tenor and son of Barton McGuckin, the great Irish singer.

Noel Fleming was recognised by Mr. Fraser Gange, the Scottish vocalist, and his representations have led to the erstwhile match-seller being booked to appear at the London Palladium to-morrow.

"More than one morning," said Mr. Fleming, "I have started out with only my unsold stock of matches—my last halfpenny having gone to pay my bed overnight in a place where they, of necessity, give you no credit."

"Breakfast? About lunch time, if I had done well, I began to think of that!"

"But there were several nights when even the lodging money was not forthcoming, so I used to go down to Waterloo Station and sit for an hour or two on the station benches till they would come and ask for my ticket, and I had to move along for fear of being arrested for loitering."

SUPPER AT A STALL.

"On such nights I kept a copper or two for 'supper' at a coffee-stall—a cup of coffee and a hot pie—and afterwards stood on the Embankment, or went into St. Martin's Church, which, thank God, is open all night. But even of this I didn't care to make a habit—one didn't like to go there every night!"

"During these days I had constant colds, and once I was approached by two plain-clothed policemen, who wanted to know 'what my game was?'"

"What are you doing this for?" said one of the policemen.

"They then carefully pointed out to me an old woman match-seller not far away who was short time before had been arrested for begging!"

"This was one of my difficulties. Sometimes a man possibly detecting from my voice or manner that I had not been long at the match-selling business, and being sympathetic would give me a shilling and walk away."

"I had to call after more than one kind soul to 'please take his matches,' but I should be charged with begging."

"But there were strokes of good luck with the bad. On two separate occasions when standing outside the London Pavilion a woman's handkerchief crashed down among my matches—in one case enclosing half-a-crown, and in the other a florin! I have not yet discovered the generous donors."

BEDMATES.

"What were my fellow lodgers like at night? Well, most of us used to go in pretty late and saw little of each other, but among a pretty tough crowd now and again I found one or two 'down and out' actors and solicitors! Decent fellows, and willing to halve the 'almost nothing' they possessed."

Mr. Fraser Gange, the famous singer, told how he "spotted" Mr. Fleming on New Year's Day, as he was crossing to the Monico to lunch with his wife, "Miss Amy Evans."

"I know that man!" I said to myself, and walked straight up to him. "What are you doing here, Fleming?"

"Well, sir," he said, "I am here to see you."

"I gave in and said, 'I know you, you're Fraser Gange. We've appeared on the same platform.'"

"Exactly," I said, "and now we must get out of this."

"I hunted up Mr. Judd, of Messrs. Ascherberg's, another old mutual friend, and he said, 'Fetch him round at once. As we go to the office and were just trying his voice, Mr. Marner rang up from the Palladium asking if I would come at a matinee for Mr. Gulliver. I explained the situation to him, and he sent to Mr. Gulliver and fixed up Noel Fleming's engagement on the spot!'"

Mr. Fleming has sung at the Promenade Concerts at the Queen's Hall, at the Norwich Festival, and the Dame Clara Butt's concert at the Albert Hall.

He joined the Public Schools and Universities Battalion of the Fusiliers just after the outbreak of war and was invalided in 1915.

"NOT A TEST CASE."

CALL FOR NUMBER-MARCHERS. Over a hundred marchers from the North, carrying banners, marched to North Bridge, where two of their number appeared in connection with the marchers' harpade at Christchurch.

Formerly, Southwark, when two of their number, Philip Curran (23), a "bolder" of High-st., Dunsborough, and Samuel Langley (27), of Newcastle-on-Tyne, were charged with refusing to be removed to another workhouse and locking themselves in their dormitory.

In his evidence, the master of the Infirmary said the institution was for infirm people, whereas the marchers were fit, and when asked were asked to go to Belmont they absolutely refused.

Accused were sentenced to seven days' hard labour, the magistrate saying that he did not consider the charges formed a test case.

FIRST WOMAN PASTOR IN WALES. Miss Annie D. Lodwick, of Briton Ferry, Glamorgan, who has accepted an invitation to the pastorate of a new Bay Baptist Church, Pembroke, is the first woman pastor to take charge of a church in Wales.

Miss Lodwick, who is 26 years of age, was trained at an Edinburgh seminary, and at first intended going as a missionary to China and Japan.

SPOT-CHANGING "GHOST" OF COALVILLE.**IS IT A LIONPARD?****"HOWLING" SUCCESS OF THE NIGHT.**

The people of the Leicestershire colliery town of Coalville and surrounding neighbourhood have been greatly amused by stories of a strange animal parading the district at night making weird sounds and rousing residents in the London-rd. and Oxford-st. portions of the district from their slumbers.

An inhabitant of Oxford-st., and his wife, stoutly declare that they saw the animal eating from a will tub in their back garden by the light of the moon, and the man has declared it to be a "lioness."

The reports having received wide publicity, timid folk and young children have become somewhat alarmed, many parents complaining that their little ones are unable to sleep at night, though the majority of the people are disposed to treat it as a huge joke.

Various descriptions of the animal have been given. At first it was declared to have a "White skin with a bushy tail."

But either this was the effect of a vivid imagination or else the nocturnal intruder can claim to be a quick-change artist, for another person who declares to have seen it describes its colour as dark brown.

Perhaps this change of description became necessary in order to fit in with the theory that it was a "lioness," because that could hardly hold good in face of the original description, inasmuch as it would be a peculiar "lioness" to have a white skin and a bushy tail.

FOOTPRINTS OF A BEAR.

The mystery was deepened, however, by the declaration that the footprints found in the garden resembled those of a bear.

Other theories are that possibly a cheetah, leopard or some such animal is at large which, perhaps, finds favour with timid people inasmuch as Coalville is close to the Charnwood Forest, and one of the alleged eye-witnesses said that the animal was one with spots.

There is no question about the town being all agog with excitement, but to say that consternation prevails, except among the younger element and a few timid people, is, of course, nonsense.

There seems to be no doubt that a large dog, the property of a local farmer, is the disturber of the peace, though there are also complaints of eerie midnight sounds from the same locality which have been traced to a donkey.

BUILDING TRADE DISPUTE.**WORKERS OPPOSE EMPLOYERS' PROPOSALS.**

The crisis in the building trade created by the employers' proposals for a reduction of wages by 20 per cent., and an extension of working hours which the operatives are strenuously resisting, was considered in London by the operatives' representatives on the National Wages and Conditions Council.

It was officially announced that a full meeting of the Executive of the various Unions will be held in London on Friday next, when the full facts of the dispute will be reported to them and a course of action decided upon.

In the interval arrangements are to be made for organising mass meetings of the men all over the country, and the resolution that was proposed by the operatives' side of the Council, but not accepted by the employers, will be submitted for endorsement. This resolution urges that the present agreement should be extended for another 12 months from March 1, 1923.

About 500,000 are affected by the dispute, but there can be no stoppage before March 1, when the present agreement expires.

PUSHED INTO RIVER.**GIRL'S STORY OF ABDUCTION IN MOTOR CAR.**

An amazing story of how she was carried off by two men in a motor car and afterwards pushed into the River Now by an unknown person was related to the Stafford police by Nancy Bowcher (21), a domestic servant, of Wolverhampton.

John Warrander, who saw the girl struggling in the water, dived into the river and rescued her.

The girl said she was returning from Rugby to her mistress's house when two men drove up in a motor car and asked her to go with them. She refused, and they forced her into the car and took her to Birmingham.

It was too late to return to Rugby, and she went to her parents, who live at Wolverhampton. She sent a telegram to her employer saying that she would return the next day.

In the morning she came face to face, at Birmingham station, with the men who had abducted her. She was too frightened to continue her journey, so went back to Wolverhampton, but was afraid to go home.

She went to Stafford and walked across the fields by the river to Brick Bridge. As she was looking over the bridge somebody came behind her and pushed her into the water.

PRISON FOR WILL FORGERS.

For forging a will purporting to be made by James Phillips, a Salvation Army commandant who died last April, Edward Johns (52), of Raunds, Northamptonshire, was sentenced at the Old Bailey to three years' penal servitude. Onslow Smith (70), a clerk, of Islington, N., was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment for conspiring with Johns.

£100 FOR NEWS OF LOST SOLICITOR.**MYSTERY LETTER.****BLOODHOUNDS NON-SUCCESS.**

On New Year's Eve, Mr. Thomas Melard Vernon, a Guiseley (near Leeds) solicitor, left his house ostensibly for his customary evening stroll. Since then his relatives and friends have lost all trace of him.

Bloodhounds have been employed in endeavours to find him, but without avail. Scotland Yard has now taken charge of the mystery, and £100 is being offered for information that will lead to his restoration alive. Another reward of £50 is offered for information leading to his discovery under any circumstances.

The following curious letter, received by Mr. Arthur Vernon, the missing man's brother, has been sent to Scotland Yard:—

"To Mrs. Vernon:—The body of your husband lies in the river left hand side, Tenes Meder (Meadow), Yorkshire, and near the house, which he had been in the body put in the 'Sunday People' newspaper, then I will send my name and address.—W. P."

A CLUE.

Mr. Arthur Vernon thinks the writer must be someone of a clairvoyant frame of mind, who is anxious to get the reward.

The missing man was a gunner in the Navy during the war, and, according to his brother, he has been "nervy" since. Mr. Arthur Vernon has stated that he may be suffering from loss of memory.

Two identifications have reached Guiseley. In a letter from Hutton Moor, Kipon, Mrs. J. Pickles stated, "I feel sure the missing man passed my house on Wednesday morning about 9.45 on the Thirk Road. I was struck by the manner in which he held his head down."

From Town Farm, Bretton, near Wakefield, Mr. Thomas Bradley wrote that a man had called at the house, saying he was wet and cold, and that he had been out all night.

"He appeared to be a gentleman. He was no ordinary tramp I am sure," concluded Mr. Bradley.

The West Riding police are extending their search to include lodging-houses, workhouses, and asylums.

£8,000 HOTEL THEFT.**BRICKS IN SUIT CASE OF VANISHED GUEST.**

A woman guest at the Bourne Hall Hotel, Bournemouth, has sustained a loss of £8,000 as the result of a robbery. She is Mrs. Stewart, of Glasgow, and she discovered her loss on returning to the hotel for dinner on Wednesday.

The missing articles include:—
£3,500 pearl necklace.
£1,500 sabbie furs.
£500 brooches.
200 other pieces of jewellery.

It has been ascertained by the police that a man who stayed at the hotel on the previous night decamped in the morning leaving behind him a suitcase containing two bricks, a cushion, and some clothing.

He was aged about 35, sturdily built, of fair complexion, and clean-shaven. The Clifton Hall Hotel, Exeter-rd., Bournemouth, was the scene of a similar robbery on the day previous.

The victims in this case were two women. Jewellery valued at about £100 was stolen.

Both thefts are believed to be the work of experts.

The man believed to be concerned in Bourne Hall Hotel affair is thought to have carried out similar robberies at South coast resorts.

BUILT HIS OWN HOUSE.

MAGISTRATES PAY FINE THEY IMPOSED. For failing to notify the Staines Rural Council of the completion of a house which he said he had erected himself in the evenings and at week-ends, C. H. Weller was fined 10s. at Feltham, Middlesex. The magistrates paid the fine themselves.

The house was described as "a ramshackle place of concrete with a roof of corrugated iron and felt."

Weller, his wife, and two children occupied it, and there were only 175 cubic feet of space for each.

There was no proper water supply or drainage, and the sanitary accommodation was inadequate. The ceiling was 18 inches too low.

Defendant said this was the only house he had been able to get since he left the Army.

Two other summonses were adjourned to see if defendant could get a proper house erected on the site.

FOUND WITH COCAINE.

PRISONER'S OFFER TO POLICE. Arrested at Coventry, where, at his lodgings, five ounces of pure cocaine were found, Cyril Goodge (21), of North-hill-rd., Coventry, was, at Stoke-on-Trent, sentenced to four months' hard labour for supplying cocaine to a Chinaman.

Accused told the officer who arrested him that if the police could engage him he could point out to them all the traffickers in cocaine at Ostend, adding that it was between that place and Ghent that he was given cocaine in a railway carriage, and that when he came home he did not know what to do with it.

NURSE FINED £100.

For being in the unlawful possession of cocaine, Gertrude Parkes, a nurse, of Moseord-rd., Clapham Common, was fined £100 at Middlesbrough. Accused, it was alleged, was seen in a dazed condition, and showed the marks of a mental hospital a pot of white powder, which was found to contain 120 grains of cocaine.

The defence was that the drug had been used by accused to relieve pain to the eyes.

OVERSIGHT IN OPERATING THEATRE.**SWAB IN MAN'S BODY.****DEATH AFTER "GOOD RECOVERY."**

A medical mistake in the operating theatre was disclosed at the inquest at Stalybridge, Cheshire, on an ex-Service man named Nicholls.

A post-mortem examination revealed present in the abdomen of a piece of gauze 12in. long by 8in. wide which had been accidentally left in the body after an operation at the Knotty Ash Hospital, Liverpool, six months ago.

Major Rigby, medical superintendent at Knotty Ash Hospital, said the operation was performed by Mr. Monsarrat, a Liverpool surgeon, assisted by Dr. Shepherd, of Liverpool, a trained nurse being also present.

Dr. Shepherd said that while the operation was in progress terrific bleeding took place, and to staunch the flow he put swabs into the organ operated on.

The man left the hospital in September as a "good recovery," but a month later complained to his wife that something was pricking him in the abdomen, and he wondered if a stitch had been left in.

A RECOGNISED ACCIDENT.

Asked how he accounted for the presence in the body of the gauze swab, Dr. Shepherd replied: "Well, sir, it is a recognised accident of surgery. He explained that it was customary to count the swabs used before and after an operation, and in this respect there was a triple responsibility."

The house surgeon at Ashton-under-Lyne Infirmary, where the man died, displayed the swab, and said that Nicholls's death was accelerated by presence of the gauze in the body. The man was suffering from inflammation.

The coroner remarked that a mere error of judgment, though regrettable, would not amount to manslaughter. If a competent operator made an accidental mistake in the treatment of a patient whereby death ensued he was not guilty of manslaughter.

In the case of Nicholls a crisis arose in the midst of the operation.

In returning a verdict of death by misadventure, the jury expressed their satisfaction with the manner in which the medical men had given their evidence.

PANEL PRESCRIPTIONS.**CHEMIST FINED FOR EXCEEDING DOCTOR'S INSTRUCTIONS.**

"There appears to have been a considerable amount of carelessness," said Mr. D'Eyncourt at Marlborough-st., in fining Messrs. Schliephack, Ltd., chemists, of Charlotte-st., W., £5, with 10s. 6d. costs, for making up medicine containing an excess of 44 per cent. of potassium bromide.

Mr. W. T. Ricketts, for the St. Pancras Borough Council, stated that the National Health Insurance Committee had requested the St. Pancras Council and other authorities to test the care with which prescriptions given by doctors to panel patients are made up by chemists.

The bottle of medicine made up for a panel patient in this case was analysed, and found to contain 44 per cent. of potassium bromide in excess of the amount prescribed by the doctor.

Dr. Higgins, medical officer of health for St. Pancras, stated that the excess of the drug would have a more profound effect than a doctor required for a patient.

NURSES AND DYING MAN.

At the inquest at Stepney on Samuel Cohen (65), fishmonger, a witness said that the Whitechapel Infirmary nurses had refused the man's dying requests for a drink of water.

After hearing the evidence of the ward nurses, Dr. Guthrie, the coroner, said it was very difficult to form any definite opinion. There had been some discrepancy in the evidence of the nurses. He himself had come to the conclusion that Cohen hardly got the attention to which a dying man was entitled.

The verdict was natural death.

3 FAMILIES IN A TENT.**MAGISTRATE DECLINES TO PUT THEM IN THE GUTTER.**

"I cannot put these people in the gutter. I will make an order to take effect in six weeks," Mr. Roath, the Lambeth magistrate, thus disposed of an application concerning three families consisting of 12 adults and seven children who are living in an old tarpaulin tent without water supply or sanitary convenience.

Applying on behalf of the Lambeth Borough Council for an order to close the tent, which is erected in the forecourt of a brewery, Mr. C. E. Newton stated that it was grossly overcrowded, and the conditions in which the people were living were dangerous to health.

Charles Webb, Bertram Woodley, and Elsie Giddings, three of the men occupants, pleaded that they had nowhere else to go.

"Our wives are out daily in search of rooms," said Giddings, "but children seem to be a bar wherever they go."

Mr. Roath (to the council's solicitor): You are asking me to make a peremptory order on these people, who cannot find other accommodation. This is a civilized country. Surely there is accommodation over which the council have control?

Mr. Newton: All the council's houses are fully occupied.

BOTULISM AMONG HORSES.

Investigations carried out among horses suffering from grass sickness, prove that the malady is botulism.

This statement was made by Dr. Tocher, of Aberdeen, in a report to the Highland Agricultural Society. Grass sickness has proved fatal in hundreds of cases, and the doctor recommends that horses should be protected by inoculation with preventive serum. This, he added, was now available on a commercial basis.

SIX KILLED IN TWO AIR DISASTERS.**TEST FLIGHT CRASH.****ENGLISHMEN'S FATE ABROAD.**

Six people have lost their lives in two aeroplane disasters.

At Stanmore, Middlesex, a De Havilland machine crashed and the pilot and a mechanic were killed. The other accident occurred in Corsica, and of four people killed three were British passengers.

The machine which crashed at Stanmore was a D.H. 16, and belonged to the De Havilland Aircraft Co. Captain R. E. Keyes, of Yarmouth, was piloting the machine on a test flight, accompanied by four mechanics, and suddenly the aeroplane nose-dived and fell into a hedge from a height of about 300 feet.

The pilot and one mechanic, named Arnell, of Inglesway, Finchley, were killed, and the other mechanics, named G. Hawke, E. Barnett, and H. Picken were injured.

The dead pilot, Captain Keyes, of Yarmouth, during the war gained the D.S.O. and D.F.C., and was one of the airmen responsible for bringing down a Zeppelin near Scarborough in August, 1916, and severely damaging a second.

AEROPLANE'S SOMERSAULTS.

The aeroplane which crashed in Corsica was responsible for the loss of the lives of two Englishmen, a woman, and the pilot.

The machine was engaged in the service between Antibes (Alpes Maritimes) and Ajaccio, and crashed near Attiolo, about 12 miles from Ajaccio.

Three British passengers—Captain Jeffries and Mrs. Jeffries and Mr. Peel—and the pilot were killed and the wireless operator was seriously injured.

The probable cause of the accident is the breaking off of an aileron, which was found 500 yards from the spot where the aeroplane crashed. Shepherds declare they saw an aeroplane turn several somersaults, and fall from a height of 500 feet. The machine was found on a hillock in the midst of a thick wood near the Gulf of Sagone. Shrubs had penetrated the wings, and the fuselage was shattered.

THE HYAENA BARK.**SIR FRANK BENSON'S HINTS TO ACTORS.**

Show in your face the thought you are going to express, so that at each new breath new life enters, said Sir Frank Benson in an address on "The Music of Your Voice," at the Trinity College of Music.

In the production of an opera recently he noticed that a singer picked out one small and unimportant word in a sentence, and put his whole soul into the singing of it. The sound was melodious, but the effect jarred musically and dramatically. Sir Frank asked the singer why he did it, and he replied, "That is the one note on which I can show off my voice." (Laughter.)

There was the "hyaena-bark" method of elocution and the "nightingale" method, Sir Frank added. There was only one method that was wrong—the insincere or self-centred method.

FITZROY CASE WITNESS BOUND OVER.**"FOUND HERSELF IN A DILEMMA."****JUSTICE DARLING ON PERJURY.**

The "Fitzroy case witness"—Daisy Victoria May Broadbridge (24), who, as "Mrs. Turner," gave evidence on behalf of the police in the prosecution against Sir Almeric Fitzroy, Clerk to the Privy Council, when he was charged with annoying people using Hyde Park, was, at the Old Bailey, found guilty of perjury, but strongly recommended to mercy by the jury, and was bound over to come up for judgment if called upon.

Justice Darling said defendant had been convicted upon evidence of which there could be no possible doubt that she had sworn what was wholly untrue. He was sure that what she had said from the dock that she did not desire to prosecute was true.

"My view of it is," continued the judge, "that you did not really start the prosecution. You found yourself in this position; the police had seen something which led them to think that the regulations of the Park had been violated and if Sir Almeric had not annoyed you you were in the Park for an improper purpose, and a charge would have been made against you."

"In these circumstances you swore that you were annoyed. I think you were in the dilemma that if you had not gone to the police station you might have found yourself taken into custody. This having happened you committed perjury and Sir Almeric might have been convicted of the charge you made against him."

"The crime is just as great, although the perjury failed to influence the magistrate. I shall give effect to the recommendation of the jury, with which I entirely agree. You are an unfortunate person, who has suffered a good deal and you did not commit the crime to get money or to injure anyone."

"The punishment for perjury must vary. The Public Prosecutor thought it well to bring your case into Court for investigation. I think he was perfectly right. When he received the information in such a notorious case he had to bring a prosecution for perjury."

ATTACKED BY FATHER.**EPILEPTIC MAN'S SAVAGE USE OF WEAPON.**

Evidence that he was suffering from epilepsy and that his brain was shot below the average weight was given at an inquest at Hull on James William Wride, aged 28, who was found dead after attacking his wife and child, from whom he was separated, with a razor.

The child died, but it is hoped that Mrs. Wride will recover.

Dr. Pullan said Wride had used the razor so savagely on himself that he cut into his backbone.

A verdict of wilful murder in the case of the child, and of suicide while of unsound mind in the case of the father was returned.

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ABANDONED ON CHINESE JUNK.

SAVED BY FRIGATE.

SEA WAIF'S AMAZING HISTORY.

A romantic story of a sea waif who became a prosperous business man is recalled by the death of Mr. James Haynes Hill (76), of New London, Connecticut. Just before his death Mr. Hill finished a book on which he had been working for several years, dealing with his life.

Who his parents were, and what became of them, he never knew. All he knew was that when he was about four years old he was captured by Chinese Landits and abandoned on a junk.

As the junk was floating off the coast of China it ran foul of the United States frigate Powhatan, in command of Capt. James Haynes, of New London. Capt. Haynes gave an order to blow up the junk, but on second thought sent a sailor aboard to see if anything of value or interest was there. The sailor came upon the baby sleeping in the cabin.

But Hill never remembered that. His first memories, with which he begins his book, tell of the two years cruising of the Powhatan before it finally put in at New London. His first dim memories are of the deck of the Powhatan, with Capt. Haynes standing by him and a bunch of sailors romping with him, and with no land in sight. He said he had a vague recollection of a terrible storm in the Mediterranean—a few days and nights of terror that stamped themselves on his mind.

When the ship got back to New London Captain Haynes turned the boy, who was then six years old, over to his sister, Mrs. Lucy Chapman. He took the name of James Haynes Hill. He never went back to sea, and never left New London. He made his home with Mrs. Chapman until 25 years ago, when he married Miss Susie Hunt. She died several years ago.

In former years Hill would go along the waterfront and talk to the old ship masters who came in from the China coast, asking them for all sorts of stories that they may have heard in China and hoping that some time he would come upon the true story of what happened before he was left alone on the junk. That he was placed there by bandits appeared certain to him, but what had gone before is unknown.

STEP-DAUGHTER BRIDE.

HUSBAND'S PROMISE TO DYING WIFE.

Henry Stearn (63), agent, pleaded guilty at the Old Bailey to making false statements in order to obtain a marriage licence.

It was stated that his wife died in 1921. Last July he applied for a licence to marry her daughter, aged 45, by her first husband. He stated that he knew of no impediment to the marriage.

Mr. J. D. Cassels, for the defence, said that Stearn's wife when dying made him promise to marry her daughter, a nurse. He thought that the objection to marriage with a step-daughter, as being within the prohibited degrees of affinity, was only a Church objection, and that the wedding could take place at a register office. His step-daughter, however, wished for a Church marriage. Both parties regretted that the marriage was null and void.

Sir E. Wild, the Recorder, said there were mitigating circumstances. He postponed sentence until next sessions, when Stearn would be set free without any sentence of imprisonment.—Bail was not allowed.

VACCINATION DEATH.

ONLY THIRD FATALITY IN 20,000 CASES.

A five-month-old baby, who died at Fulham following vaccination was the subject of an inquest at Westminster. It was stated that one of the four vaccination marks did not heal. The mother said she had never interfered with the shield covering the pad put on by the doctor.

Dr. Albert Cope, who vaccinated the child, said that two days before death there was cellulitis (inflammation of the tissues next to the skin). The lymph used was supplied by the Government. He vaccinated 13 children with this supply of lymph. There had been no other complaint. This was only the third fatal case in his 30 years' experience. In that time he had vaccinated more than 20,000 children.

Dr. Weir, pathologist, said that infection might have arisen from the movement of the arm and contact with clothes.

Mr. Ingleby Oddie, the coroner, recorded a verdict of death by misadventure. He added a rider that the vaccination was properly performed with satisfactory lymph and that the cellulitis did not arise from the lymph but was due to a germ entering the system through the post vaccination seal and quite independently of the vaccination.

BABY ON RUBBISH HEAP.

INDIAN GIRL TOURISTS' FAREWELL.

"Unless a miracle happens we shall have to cut down the expenses of our Indian missions by about a third." This was the statement of Mrs. General Booth at the Central Hall, Westminster, when an audience of Salvationists, which completely filled the hall, assembled to bid farewell to the 20 Indian girls who have toured Europe in the interests of the "Army's" Indian missions—and, incidentally, have travelled 25,000 miles.

The little dark-eyed maidens, whose ages range from seven to 14, gave a series of interesting and amusing displays under their Swedish women drill instructors. The youngest of them—a representative of "The People"—learned—had been thrown away on a rubbish heap in Central India province at the age of a year or so as a "not want" and was picked up by officers of the Salvation Army. When "The People" representative saw her she had apparently forgotten the incident herself, and was all smiles.

An amusing scene, which included the taking of her first dose of medicine, was included in the programme, the principal parts being taken by a Marathi woman and her daughter and one of the Swedish instructors. It provoked shouts of laughter.

Commissioner Higgins, the Chief of Staff, gave an eloquent farewell message to the children on the eve of their return to India.

A DUKE'S ESTATE.

LIFE INTERESTS DISPOSED OF FOR £57,500.

At the statutory first meeting at the London Bankruptcy Court of the creditors of the Duke of Leinster, the Senior Official Receiver read the following cablegram from the Duke sent from New York:

"Returning middle January, arranging payment of all debts in full. Please stay proceedings."

Mr. Boyle, having dealt with the proofs of debts, which numbered 15, and aggregated £24,757, reported that all the proxies were in favour of the appointment of Mr. F. S. Salaman as trustee.

In the ordinary course an application would be made to adjudicate the Duke bankrupt.

Mr. F. S. Salaman said he was also trustee in the previous bankruptcy, and as soon as the adjudication was made in this case he should be lodging a proof for about £35,000 for the unsatisfied debts in the first bankruptcy.

With his knowledge of the circumstances, continued Mr. Salaman, he was doubtful if the Duke would really be able to pay his debts in full. It was therefore important that an adjudication should be made.

The Duke's reversionary life interest in his estate, Mr. Salaman added, was sold to Sir Harry Mallaby-Deeley, and negotiations had been opened with Sir Harry in the hope that the life interest could be repurchased on such terms as would enable funds to be available for the payment of the creditors.

Nothing had yet been arranged. For that interest Sir Harry Mallaby-Deeley paid £27,500 and undertook to pay £1,000 a year for 10 years, and the Duke had the option of redeeming his interest within 10 years on payment of £400,000.

LIKE AS TWO PEAS.

TWINS AND TROUBLES NEVER COME SINGLE.

Two brothers (twins), of Whitehaven, Cumberland, are so much alike that their mother cannot distinguish one from the other.

They both play for Kells United Football Club, and recently the referee warned one on three occasions in the same match, and finally ordered the other brother off the field under the impression that he had transgressed the rules a fourth time.

When he appeared before the Cumberland County Football Association he described the incident as a huge mistake.

"It is my brother who was cautioned three times," he said, "but I was ordered off. Nobody can tell the difference between us. We are of the same build, and have the same features."

The Association decided to take no action in the matter.

BLIND DEAF MUTE.

CRIPPLE'S FORTUNATE OF MARRIED LIFE.

A deaf, dumb and blind cripple was summoned at Blackburn for deserting his wife. Deaf and dumb interpreters had to be called to secure evidence.

It appeared that the man, Robert Ralph, of Snig Brook, a blind pensioner, married his wife last March. A fortnight later they disagreed and parted.—The Bench dismissed the summons.

WRONG LEG CUT OFF.

SURGICAL MISTAKES.

GRAND GUIGNOL IN THE OPERATING THEATRE.

A celebrated surgeon operating in the case of a compound fracture removed the wrong leg. He then wanted to cut off the other leg, but the patient protested, and was eventually left with a healed limb which it had been desired to amputate.

This is one of the many secrets of the operating theatre revealed by Dr. Harold Burrows in his recently published book, "Mistakes and Accidents of the Surgery."

According to the author instances of "swabs" being left in the patient's interior and the use of insufficiently sterilized instruments are fairly common. Absent-mindedness is given as the cause. Commenting on the leg incident, Dr. Burrows remarks: "The mistake has been made, and will probably be made again."

Another operation for tonsils the doctor relates that an old blade was used which had been so frequently sharpened that it had become thin. It snapped during the operation, and the blade became embedded in the patient's throat.

Another terrifying mistake occurred when both the operator and the anaesthetist were "gassed" by the decomposition products of the chloroform, which had come into contact with a hot stove. Both dropped to the ground unconscious.

The nurse saved the situation by rushing to the window, opening it, and dropping the patient—a baby—to the ground. Happily, no evil results ensued.

Minor operations, too, are often performed badly. No operation, says Dr. Burrows, is so carelessly done as the removal of tonsils, simply because it is regarded as demanding so little skill from the performer.

SHOPLIFTERS' PLEA.

"IT LOOKED SO EASY WHEN OTHERS DID IT."

Three women who were charged before the Manchester City Justices with stealing from shops pleaded that they had been tempted because they had seen other women stealing and they were not detected.

"Up till my baby was born a few months ago I have always had money to pay for everything I fancied. I saw other women taking things, and it looked so easy that I too was tempted," said the wife of an unemployed ex-soldier of Ashley-lane, Newton Heath. She pleaded guilty to stealing tins of sardines from Messrs. Woolworth's Stores, Oldham-st., and a quantity of children's wearing apparel and other things, from Messrs. Lewis's, Market-st.

The magistrates, in binding her over in the sum of £10, stated that they were inclined to believe that she had been tempted by seeing other people helping themselves.

In another case against two married women, both of Samuel-st., Crewe, who pleaded guilty to being concerned together in stealing articles valued at £5 1s. from Messrs. Affleck and Brown, Oldham-st., and other articles to the value of £4 10s. from Messrs. Lewis's, Mr. Ralph J. Watts, defending, said they too, had been tempted by seeing other women stealing in the shops mentioned. They were both fined.

A REST AND ITS SEQUEL.

FIRE STARTED BY CARELESS DRUNKEN MAN.

Walter P. Pick, a horse-breaker, who was originally charged with setting fire to a stable at Swallowbeck Grange, near Lincoln, admitted drunk, he lost his way in the fog, and set down on a heap of straw in the stable. He lit a match, and later found that a fire had started. He became frightened, and ran away.

Pick was further charged with wantonly omitting to give the alarm of fire, thereby causing unnecessary suffering to two horses in the stable. The animals were burned to death.

The Bench dismissed the charge of incendiarism, but sent Pick to prison for six weeks on the cruelty charge.

THIS MORNING'S LATEST LINES.

Large soap works at Ashby-de-la-Zouch are shortly to be started.

Frederick G. Dinto, 13, of Batavia, ran a nail into his foot, and died later of lockjaw.

H.M. armoured cruiser Shannon, which has been flagship of three cruiser squadrons, has been sold for breaking up on the Clyde.

The sales of National Savings Certificates for the week ended Dec. 23, 1922, were £61,527, making a grand total of £67,223,337.

Rev. Dr. Maurice Jones, rector of Rotherfield, Peppering, Haverly, has been appointed principal of St. David's College, Lampeter, Carmarthenshire.

Killed by Safety Razor.—James Rhodes, weaver, of Preston, who cut his throat with the blade of a safety razor, has died.

No Sunday Burials.—Steps are being taken by the coroner and cemetery authorities to put a stop to Sunday burials in East Cheshire.

Drive Under a Motor-bus.—At an inquest on William Hutton (41), it was said he deliberately drove under a motor-bus at the corner of Seven Sisters Pl., Holloway.

Honesty Sunday.—Because of increasing dishonesty the Swansea magistrates have asked local ministers of religion to fix a Sunday for sermons in every pulpit on honesty.

Tramps' Travel to Lake.—According to the Berkshire Workhouse master, tramps have taken to travelling to casual wards on the rear of motor-torries, often "tramping" 50 miles a day in this way.

Stump in Shipbuilding.—Shipping under construction in Great Britain and Ireland on Dec. 31 amounted to 1,468,599 tons, more than a million tons less than was under construction a year ago.

£200 a Year Minimum.—A scheme for increasing all benefits which fall below £200 a year up to that amount is being started by the diocese of Manchester. The capital sum required for carrying this into effect is £2,000.

THRILLING GALE.

RESCUES.

CREW OF FISHING BOAT FOUND UNCONSCIOUS.

A thrilling rescue of a fishing boat's crew was effected during what has been described as the worst gale that has been experienced on the Irish Sea for very many years.

After having been at the mercy of the terrific seas for two days and a night, during which time they had had neither food nor sleep, the crew of the fishing boat, Shamrock, were rescued in an unconscious condition about 10 miles off Point of Ayr, Isle of Man.

Captain William Adair, of the s.s. Balmorino, was proceeding from Newry to Workington to load coal when he sighted the Shamrock.

The fishing boat engines had broken, her sails were gone, and it was evident that she was quite out of control.

On getting nearer Captain Adair discovered the crew lying in the scuppers unconscious, with great seas breaking over them.

For two hours Captain Adair manoeuvred the Balmorino until he was able to get a line aboard. One of the men, who afterwards admitted that he was recalled to consciousness by the blowing of the Balmorino's siren, staggered to his feet and endeavoured to make the line fast.

"WE DID TOGETHER." It was not until 20 attempts had been made that the man, Gilbert Kirkpatrick, was able to summon sufficient strength for the task. He was brought to the deck of the Balmorino.

Seeing it was impossible to get his comrades on board, Kirkpatrick waited until a wave brought the Shamrock near the Balmorino, and shouting out, "If we have to die, we are going to die together," he took a running leap from the deck of the fishing boat, which was lost to sight in the seas.

Again the Balmorino got a line aboard, and the captain endeavoured to haul the unconscious men on board the steamer, but had to abandon the attempt owing to the heavy seas.

He therefore continued to tow the Shamrock to Workington, and after 15 hours brought her safely into dock.

ARSON ALLEGATIONS.

PILE OF CHAIRS AND OIL CANS IN HOUSE.

Allegations of incendiarism were made at Lowestoft Police Court, when John Skilton Summers and his son, David, were charged with having set on fire the elder prisoner's home on Dec. 13, while a number of persons were there.

It was stated that chairs were found piled up and oil cans near them.

John Summers wrote a statement to the effect that he set on fire his own house to draw the attention of the Government to the diabolical treatment of his family. This was his eighth home in five years, and he had been driven out of them all, drugged and robbed.

The son was discharged, but the father was committed to the gaol.

"DOLE" ANOMALY.

MAN MAY EARN 25 AND DRAW RELIEF.

An anomaly of the "dole" system was referred to by the magistrate at North London during the hearing of a charge of obtaining relief by false pretences.

"If a man starts work at midnight on Saturday and works till midnight on Sunday, and earns 25, he can draw the dole for the rest of the week, and do nothing," he said. "But if he touches his work on the Saturday night or the Monday morning, he is not entitled to receive the dole for those days."

A WOMAN FAGIN.

For months past this woman has been an habitual receiver of goods stolen by children, and a detective, when Mrs. Maud Laurett (35) appeared in Marylebone Police Court on a charge of receiving six boxes of goods, stolen by some boys.

The boys, who were said to have stolen the goods from the back of a van, were placed on probation. She was fined £1, with the alternative of one month's imprisonment.

FEAST AFTER FAST.

MAN'S LIFE OF MISADVENTURE.

"He seems to have had a variety of experiences in his life," said the Nottingham City coroner at the inquest on Thomas Shary (45), of Lenton, Nottingham.

The widow said that two years ago her husband developed paralysis and the right side of his body became affected. He had been getting weaker because he could not eat. At Christmas he had only a little soup in five days. Then he ate a heavy meal. Next day he complained of a sore throat and could not swallow anything. A doctor ordered his removal to hospital.

Some years ago, he was engaged in cleaning out some sewers at Dunkirk. The "boss" usually provided beer. Her husband picked up the wrong bottle, and drank some vitriol. The consequence was he had to be treated at the Nottingham General Hospital, and since then he had had a silver tube fixed in his throat.

Dr. H. D. McKenna said that there was a growth or piece of animal tissue lying above the larynx. It was impossible to remove it. After eating something in hospital he vomited a large piece of meat tissue. When Shary entered the institution his breathing was embarrassed, and he showed signs of bronchitis, not due to the throat trouble. This developed into septic broncho-pneumonia, and he died. Dr. McKenna considered that death was due to senile dementia.

A verdict in accordance with medical evidence was returned.

SHOT MAN'S £100.

MISSING MONEY IN EUSTON HOTEL MYSTERY.

What has become of the £100 in notes which Alfred Henry Lee (33), who was found shot in the Euston Hotel on Dec. 15, was known to have in his possession, when he left his brother's house in Swansea?

At the resumed inquest at St. Pancras William A. Lee, of Swansea, said his brother had been a telegraph inspector employed by the Colonial government, and came home from East Africa on leave on Sept. 25, remaining until Dec. 13, when he left to go to the Gold Coast. He had about £100, and this money was seen by relations at Cardiff. They had been unable to trace that money.

The police said Lee had not been re-engaged by the Colonial Office.

The coroner, remarking that there were new features in the case that suggested that further inquiries should be made, adjourned the inquest for a week.

MISS K. MANSFIELD DEAD.

Miss Katherine Mansfield, the short-story writer, who died at Fontainebleau, near Paris, was a daughter of Mr. Harold Beauchamp, of Wellington, N.Z., and was married to Mr. John Middleton Murray, the critic and author.

She took high rank as a short-story writer.

When William Rooney was charged with the murder of Jackson, in November last, the prosecution alleged that the prisoner, who had been drinking methylenic spirits, met the girl on his way to work and kicked her to death in a field. He had been previously been paying attention to her.

He was found guilty and in passing sentence of death, the judge said he could hold out no hope of mercy. Prisoner had lived a life of crime, and had done a girl to death in a shocking manner. Rooney protested his innocence.

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DOCTORS DIAGNOSE A DILEMMA.

PROBLEM OF TYPE.

BUFF BOOK "ADVERTISEMENT" TO CEASE.

There is considerable perturbation in the medical profession over a technical point in the printing of the Buff Book, that handy little "supplement" to the official telephone list which describes itself as the "Trades and Professions" telephone directory of London.

Here and there, under the classification of "Physicians" you may see descriptions after the names of certain doctors, of their peculiar qualifications, for example, "Aurist," or "Consumptive Physician," or "Ophthalmic Surgeon," or simply "X Rays." These are the bigger type.

In the forthcoming edition of the Buff Book this "display" type will disappear by recommendation of the General Medical Council.

"Though no definite complaints have been received," said Mr. Norman King, secretary and registrar of the General Medical Council, to a representative of "The People," "there has been a good deal of talk on the matter, and the Council feels that the use of such heavy type after names here and there is hardly fair to other medical men. Consciously or unconsciously, it draws special attention and might almost be described as a form of oblique advertising."

"I am assured, however, that the matter arose quite accidentally, and I am informed by the printers that in no case was any money paid for the use of heavier type."

"In the new forthcoming Medical Directory names will be classified under such headings as 'General Practitioner,' 'Oculist,' 'Anaesthetist,' and so on."

Mr. Bennett, a director of the Buff Book, told a representative of "The People" that there was no doubt the giving of a man's special qualifications after his name was a great boon to the public, but, as stated, the type would be reduced in size in accordance with the Medical Council's recommendation.

GIRL KICKED TO DEATH.

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LEFT-HAND STRANGLE-HOLD THEORY.

TEST IN COURT.

COMMITTAL IN LONELY VILLA CRIME.

There were dramatic incidents during the proceedings at Stockport Police Court which ended in Frederick Wood, aged 29, described as a travelling upholsterer, being committed for trial on the charge of murdering Miss Margaret Gilchrist White.

The full story of the crime has been already related in "The People."

Miss White's body was found by her brother, with whom she lived at a lonely villa, at Bramhall, near Stockport, when he returned from business in the evening. Wood gave himself up at Lincoln after the police had published a description of a man who was wanted in connection with the affair.

Dr. Nightingale, of Stockport, who, with Dr. Anderson conducted the post-mortem examination, was an important witness. His theory was that Miss White was throttled by pressure of the thumb of an assailant's left hand.

Considerable violence was used, and death should ensue in three minutes. The doctor thought the attack had been made from Miss White's left side. She had been seized at the throat by the assailant's left hand, the right hand gripping her below the right shoulder.

He concluded that the hands had been at the wrists. He fixed the time of death at about 11 in the morning of Dec. 14.

INJURED LEFT ARM.

Dr. Anderson gave it as his opinion that Miss White was seized from behind with the fingers of both hands round her neck.

In reply to Wood Dr. Anderson said Miss White was not a strong woman, but she was certainly strong enough to scream.

Wood, whose left arm is injured, desired to have that arm examined. This was done during the luncheon interval, and afterwards in reply to Wood Dr. Nightingale said the arm was strong enough to throttle a person.

Previous to this, Mr. Sifton-Cohen, who is prosecuting, had handed to the Chief-Inspector, Brown, of Scotland Yard, a long written statement in a sealed envelope, marked, "Not to be opened till after the inquest."

The inquest was adjourned, and afterwards Insp. Brown opened the envelope. Mr. Sifton-Cohen intimated that he proposed to read the statement.

Wood at once protested, saying that it was based on medical evidence, and it would be most unfair to read it before the doctors had given their evidence.

WOOD'S OUTBURST.

Wright, Foster repeated the following verbal statement made to him by Wood before writing the statement already referred to:

"You'll get a shock. Miss White was at the gate when I was passing, and asked me to show her how to play a chair, and said she would give me half a crown. I did the job, and she said, 'What I got out of that was worth my own. I only got 15s.'"

"Miss White was alone when I left her. She was in the kitchen, and she would have worried me if he had got hold of her."

"The last time I was at the house she had to fasten him up, but I will explain the whole thing in my own way."

Chief-Inspector Brown told the court that, before reading the statement, Wood said it over to him.

The Bench directed Wood to agree to the statement being read.

Wood protested. "I am determined," he said, "to object. If you read it I shall object all the time."

"You can gag me if you like, but I shall go on protesting until you send me down stairs."

Eventually it was decided not to read the statement at that juncture.

Before he was committed for trial at the next Chester Assizes Wood was asked if he had anything to say, and replied not guilty.

OLD AGE PENSION FRAUDS.

MAN SENT TO GAOL FOR TWO WOMEN.

An old age pensioner, William Elze, was sent to prison for two months at Bromley, Kent, for making a false pension statement.

It was stated in court that he had been receiving £1 a week from his former employer, who made a strong appeal for mercy on Elze's behalf.

"But for your age you would have been sent to prison," said the Brighton justices, in imposing a fine of £10 and costs on Elze for obtaining pension money by false pretences.

It was said that while in receipt of a pension, granted in consequence of the death of her son on active service, she failed to disclose the fact that she had a daughter living with her who contributed to the household expenses. It was stated that she had been overpaid £110 between July, 1919, and May last year.

A widow, Anne Westwood (74), of Pocklington, was fined £5 for a similar offence, the pension officer discovering that she had an allowance of 10s. a week from her nephew.

JUDGE ON COMEDIAN'S WAGES.

When Sidney Bailey, a comedian in the "Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe," was sued at Manchester County Court by Moody Bros., of Birmingham, theatrical printers, for payment of a debt, Judge Mellor asked: "Is a man who gets his name printed in six-inch letters or in small print?"

Applicant: Large letters. He gets £12 a week.

Judge Mellor: One knows something of the bad times which theatrical ventures are experiencing. I am not supposed to know anything about it, but I think if you halved that amount you would be about right. For a travelling comedian £12 a week is very good.

Defendant was ordered to repay the money in three instalments.

COAT POCKET EXPLOSION.

EXPERTS' TESTS ON STRAW DUMMY.

"I am firmly convinced that the accident was due to the presence of a detonator in the man's pocket, and that the cartridges had nothing to do with the matter."

This is the conclusion of Major A. Cooper-Key, Chief Inspector of Explosives, in a report on the death at Cullford, Bury St. Edmunds, on Dec. 1 last, of Cecil Stanley Shuter, a loader engaged with a party of cunns, from injuries caused by an explosion in a pocket in which he was carrying a number of cartridges.

In the pocket were found eight undamaged cartridges and parts of seven others.

Regarding loose detonators in the pocket Major Cooper-Key says in the report:—

"Mr. W. D. Borland, of Nobel Industries, Ltd., has carried out for me a series of experiments. A bag was prepared to represent a coat pocket filled with cartridges, placed in contact with a straw dummy to represent a man's body. A blasting detonator was fired among the cartridges. The effect was strikingly similar to that resulting from the accident under report."

"Some of the cartridges were blown to pieces, some lost their powder and some their shot."

POLICE BRUTALITY.

£500 FOR BRIDEGROOM WHOSE JAW WAS BROKEN.

The Newcastle City Council have decided to pay £500 compensation and costs to Mr. Francis Gibson, a Yorkshire horse dealer, the victim of police brutality.

Mr. Gibson, a young man, arrived in Newcastle last June to be married, and stayed in a hotel.

Between midnight and 1 o'clock in the morning he was arrested in the hotel by two detectives on suspicion of being a horse thief for whom they were seeking. He offered evidence of identity, which was refused.

Gibson resisted arrest and knocked down one of the detectives. He was handcuffed and taken to the police station.

The Watch Committee, who investigated the case, reported that Gibson had been "mishandled and brutally used." His lower jaw was broken, and he was permanently disfigured.

It was found by the committee that Gibson was of unblemished character, and that the treatment he had undergone was unjustified.

They said they could not fix individual responsibility for the blow that broke the man's jaw, but orders were given for the two detectives to be reduced to the rank of ordinary constables, and for the ill-usage took place to be severely censured.

POVERTY PLEA.

CHARGE AGAINST MAYOR'S SON DISMISSED.

Summoned by his wife for alleged desertion, William Claude Jago, son of the Mayor of Here, was acquitted by the Brighton magistrates without the defence being called upon.

Mrs. Jago, a Danish subject, said she was married in 1913. In 1920 her mother was dying in Denmark and she went to see her. In October of that year defendant wrote:

"I have been existing for four weeks on five shillings. I have only one pair of boots, and the soles have gone, and are irreparable."

Later, he wrote suggesting she should come to Hove.

"You will realise I have not been able to find a home," he said.

The chairman said these letters certainly proved no desertion.

In January, 1921, Mrs. Jago wrote from Birmingham:

"I am living on, and with my sisters as usual, as you haven't sent me any money since Dec. 4. I have come to the conclusion that it is absolutely futile for me to expect you over to provide for me or look after me."

After hearing the letters read, the magistrates dismissed the wife's summons.

"AN EASY DEATH."

MAN WHO FOLLOWED EXAMPLE OF GROOMING LOVERS.

A reference to the recent suicide of the boy and girl lovers at Croydon was made at an inquest at Lambeth on George Timothy Kavanagh (20), formerly a carpet-planter, who committed suicide by inhaling coal-gas at the residence of his niece in Vauxhall.

According to the evidence of his daughter, the man had been depressed since the death of his wife and a brother-in-law. He had often been heard to remark that he would be better out of the world.

Recently he referred to the suicide of the lovers who were found with their heads in a gas oven, and he remarked what an easy death it was.

A verdict of suicide while of unsound mind was recorded.

CONSTABLE'S NIGHT "DUTY."

Said to have carried out burglaries while on night duty, P.C. Harry Scott was sentenced to nine months' hard labour at Grimsby. He was stated to have entered buildings with the use of skeleton keys.

During the hearing of the case it was said that P.S. Lewis had become insane since the charges had been preferred against Scott. A doctor attributed the sergeant's breakdown to his becoming excited and upset by the case.

HIS CIGARETTE "DOLE."

"He won't look for work, and that's why we quarrel," said Mrs. Dunn, married less than a year ago, when she summoned her husband, John Henry Dunn, of Angel-hill, Edmonton, at Tottenham, for persistent truancy.

He gives me 25s. a week, and 3s. 6d. of that goes in cigarettes for him," she added.

"Disgraceful," said the magistrate, who adjourned the case in the hope that a reconviction would be effected.

FAR AWAY MYTHICAL WEALTH.

PRISON FOR "HEIRESS."

SWOONING WOMAN FORGIVEN BY HUSBAND.

The career of a prepossessing woman, who induced her landlady to part with money by telling a story of a godfather in Bulgaria who died leaving her a substantial legacy, was cut short at Birmingham Quarter Sessions.

The woman, Agnes Louisa Simpson (39), and Howard Bernstein (49), were charged with obtaining £200 by false pretences from Mrs. Alice Green, of Hall-rd., Handsworth, with attempting to obtain £70 from the same woman, and with attempting to obtain £2 from a Mr. Ernest Edwin Lucas.

The man was sentenced to 14 months' and the woman to 10 months' hard labour.

It was stated that the couple took rooms as "Mr. and Mrs. Howard," with Miss Green, and told her that the "wife" was heiress to large wealth left by her godfather, "Jimmy Beach," in Bulgaria.

From time to time they obtained various sums of money from Miss Green, and during the time they stayed in the house lived in an extravagant and expensive style.

CHAMPAGNE AND WINES.

Champagnes and wines were often to be found in their rooms.

It had since transpired that the woman was the wife of a working gardener, who, after his demobilisation from the Army in March, 1919, lived in apartments with her for a time in Birmingham.

Det. Wright stated that the woman met Bernstein when she paid a visit to a music-hall one evening.

Apparently the two then went to London, and in August, 1920, took lodgings with a woman named Lucy Edith Rose, from whose house they disappeared with wearing apparel valued at £10.

For this offence the woman should have appeared at Bow-st. on Aug. 30.

The male prisoner and his brother went bail for her, but she again disappeared. Her bail was forfeited, and the male prisoner's brother, who had seven or eight children, was practically ruined.

Practically during the whole of the transactions the man and woman were living together. Det. Wright expressed the opinion that Simpson was under Bernstein's influence. His was the inspiring mind.

A FORGIVING HUSBAND.

When Simpson was arrested in December she drew the detective's attention to a number of letters Bernstein had written, in which he had threatened her. She appeared to be thankful the business was over and glad to be able to get it off her mind.

Bernstein was a married man and his wife was a hard-working, industrious woman.

During the time he had lived with Simpson there was no doubt he had treated her cruelly at times. For the last three years he had done no work and had been living on the proceeds of the frauds.

The woman's husband, in answer to the Recorder, stated that he was prepared to take her back and to forgive her and forget the past.

He mentioned that owing to the publicity given to the case he had been suspended from his place of work, a fact which drew from the Recorder the remark that he heard with great pain that any respectable firm would punish a man because he had an unfaithful wife.

The Recorder, in passing sentence, congratulated the woman on having the remarkable advantage of a husband whose conduct had been marked by kindness and forgiveness such as one did not often hear of in public life.

On being sentenced the female prisoner swooned and had to be carried from the dock.

FAVOURITE DRINK.

WOMAN WHO LIKED BEER AND METHYLATED SPIRITS.

"Her favourite drink was beer mixed with methylated spirits," was the statement made by a witness at a Nottingham inquest on Sarah Hall (53), widow, who was found dead in her home.

Elizabeth Bullivant, a neighbour, described Hall as an excessive drinker.

Coroner: Did you ever see her drunk? Oh, yes, practically every day.

She heard Hall moaning and calling for help, but the doors were locked. She called the police, who effected an entrance. Hall said she had fallen down, and although she appeared to be in pain there was a strong smell of methylated spirits. The woman was attended to, and placed on a couch. Next day she was found dead on the couch.

According to the medical evidence death was due to syncope attributable to chronic alcoholism.—A verdict to this effect was recorded.

THEFT FROM ARMY PAL.

Stated by the police to have been discovered by his parents because of his waywardness, a clerk named George Wilboughby Dawson, aged 26, a native of Liscard, was sentenced at Bolton Quarter Sessions to 30 months' hard labour for stealing a watch chain and medal from an army friend who, out of compassion, gave him a night's shelter.

"Anything more mean and contemptible than to steal from an army pal who has just helped you, it is difficult to understand," remarked the Recorder.

KILLED BY FOOTBALL.

While walking near King's Lynn recreation ground, Mr. Robert Newton, aged 86, a retired commercial traveller, was struck on the head with a football kicked by boys. He fell and fractured his thigh bone, and died later.

At the inquest a verdict of accidental death was returned.

THE UNFATHOMABLE MIND.

SURPRISE ACQUITTALS BY WOMEN JURIES.

Remarkable comments on the presence of women on juries were made by Sir Edward Marley Samson, Recorder of Swansea, in an address to Swansea Rotarians.

He had found, he said, that in a number of instances where women had been on juries in considerable numbers there had been acquittals in cases of offences against women and children where he would have expected convictions.

"I do not know whether the women jurors did not assert themselves," he added, "or whether they were harsh judges of their own sex—but the mind of woman was always difficult to fathom."

BIRTH CONTROL.

MAGISTRATE'S ORDER FOR BOOK TO BE DESTROYED.

Copies of a book entitled "Family Limitations" in the possession of Guy and Rose Aldred (or Witcop), of Richmond-gate, Shepherd's Bush, were ordered to be destroyed by the West London magistrate.

The book deals with birth control, and was stated to be by Margaret Sangar, an American.

The prosecution alleged that the book was obscene.

For the defence, however, Sir W. Arbuthnot Lane, consulting surgeon at Guy's Hospital, said it should be in the hands of every young person who was about to be married.

Dr. C. V. D. Drysdale and Mr. Harold Cox denied that the book was obscene.

In giving his decision, the magistrate said the publication of the book had been indelicate.

Notice of appeal was given.

£180 FROM CHARWOMAN.

LEGACY FOR MAN WHO DEPRIVED HER.

A legacy of £180 has been received by Mr. Christopher Long, an ex-hotel proprietor, of Aldershot, from a charwoman whom he helped when she was in need.

Three years ago when Mr. Long was proprietor of the Newmarket Hotel, he often befriended an old Irish woman who did odd jobs about the hotel. He provided her with meals every day, and when at length the woman left Aldershot for Ireland Mr. Long slipped a parting gift of 10s. in her hand, with a parcel of food for the journey.

"I shall never forget all your kindness to me," were her parting words.

"I never knew the old woman had a penny," said Mr. Long, when he received the legacy. "How she saved so much money I know not; but this I do know she always had a heart of gold if not a pocket full of gold."

GEYSER IS FURNITURE.

JUDGE'S DECISION ON RENT ACT POINT.

That the provision of a bath geyser and electric light fittings made a house "furnished" under the Rents Act was a decision given by Judge Terrell at Torquay.

He held that the tenant could not claim the protection of the Act and must leave the house in seven days.

In a written judgment Judge Terrell said: "A carpet nailed to the floor would clearly be furniture, and so would a bath geyser and electric light fittings. The only limit to the quantity of furniture to be included in letting in order to take it outside the operation of the statute is that the rent must include payment for such furniture. Applying this test, I find that if the owner had removed the bath geyser and fittings the tenant would not have paid the same rent."

BEAUTY ON THE FENCE.

ONLY TWO POLICEMEN TO ASSIST MERE!

Comments about class distinctions were made at a meeting of the Newport (Mon.) Town Council during a discussion arising out of flooding.

Councillor Tom Crowther said there were two policemen to assist persons to climb a six feet fence in order to cross a railway embankment.

"Fancy seeing a big woman getting over the fence assisted by two policemen," he exclaimed.

Mr. Frank Quick: Did you have a photograph taken, Tom? (Laughter.)

Mr. Crowther said that supposing a similar state of affairs happened in a better-class part of the town persons would have the assistance of the whole of the Corporation services.

A MIDNIGHT EXPLOIT.

Edward Evison, poultry dealer, who had been remanded on a charge of having been drunk and disorderly, to enable the state of his mind to be ascertained, appeared again before the Lincoln magistrates.

P.S. Brown said that at midnight he saw defendant in High-st., clad only in shirt, pants and slippers, and when put in the cell he attempted to strangle himself with his shirt.

It was stated that Evison had been 20 times before the court.

Evison said he had lost £2,000 in the last few years.

The Chairman, in imposing a fine of 50s., said Evison's position was caused entirely by drink. A fortnight was allowed for payment of the fine.

DRY PUNISHMENT.

In binding over a man who was addicted to drink, Sir H. Neale, at the Middlesex Sessions, added: "I will put you under prohibition against drink. You must not consume drink, or go on any licensed premises. You understand?"

Defendant: Yes, sir.

BACK TO THE LAND.

"When you realise that it is quite practicable for a family having 30 acres under crop to reap an income of £500 a year you will understand what a mine of wealth you have in the soil,"—Mr. J. Jones, Queensland's cotton expert, speaking at Perth, Western Australia.

BOMBARDED BY BLAZING GAS CYLINDERS.

A RUDE AWAKENING.

INHABITANTS TURN OUT IN NIGHT ATTIRE.

Residents in the neighbourhood of Old Wall-st., Liverpool, were awakened at about seven o'clock in the morning by a noise which, according to some, resembled a naval bombardment.

Rushing from their homes in such clothes as they could hastily assume, they found that a large lorry load of cylinders had become ignited.

The cylinders, which were about four feet long and three inches in circumference, were being hurled, blazing, 20 or 30 feet into the air.

They described curves over the roofs of houses and in many instances crashed into the yards. Happily nobody was hurt, but the doors and windows of the houses suffered severely from the fire and the floods of water poured on it by the fire brigade which was quickly summoned.

The fire was caused by a few drops of petrol from a funnel coming into contact with a lighted lamp after the petrol tank had been filled, the contents of the tank becoming ignited.

The outbreak took place in a yard used for their motor lorries by a firm of engineers and manufacturers of acetylene and carbide. One side of the yard is bounded by a block of small houses.

Two lorries loaded with cylinders were being prepared for morning deliveries when fire broke out on one of them. The other was moved out of danger.

The unloading of the cylinders from the burning lorry was fraught with great peril, owing to the rapidity with which their contents generated highly inflammable gas.

As the fire melted the nozzles of the cylinders, roaring streams of white flames were released and made approach on the part of the firemen impossible, while the water poured on the furnace rather encouraged the carbide than otherwise.

A large tank of petrol near by also burst into flames, and the combined fumes of petrol, carbide, and acetylene poisoned the air for a considerable distance.

The fire burnt itself out in about four hours.

STEAMER ABLAZE.

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION SUSPECTED.

While men were unloading the cargo of palm oil from the steamship Dampito (2,500 tons) at Millwall Dock, London, a huge volume of smoke belched out of No. 1 hold.

For several hours the firemen attacked the flames from the dockside and the river, and poured thousands of gallons of water in the burning vessel. The fire spread to No. 2 hold, and destroyed a large quantity of the inflammable cargo, besides doing a great deal of damage to the vessel.

The outbreak is believed to have been due to spontaneous combustion in some grain, caused by the damp weather.

SAW HER HORSE SHOT.

Mrs. Hardy, the wife of Major Bertram Hardy, had a fall over wire during a run with the Atherstone Hounds near Market Bosworth, Leicestershire. Her right leg was broken, and she was severely shaken.

Mrs. Hardy's hunter, a favourite grey, was caught in the wire, and in its struggles was so seriously injured that it had to be shot on the spot. A gun was borrowed from a house near by for the purpose, and Mrs. Hardy saw the horse shot.

THE UNEXPECTED END.

"All that is ended now by his sudden death," said the Chelsea coroner, at an inquest on Frederick John Millor, father of a girl aged 15, who died in the Chelsea Infirmary after confinement.

The coroner said that the father had been bound over on a charge of not providing attendance for his daughter when she was confined. A serious suspicion rested upon the man with regard to the daughter's death. An inquest was held, but there was not sufficient evidence to bring any charge against him.

A verdict of death from natural causes was recorded.

Ulcerated Leg

All Treatment Failed but Germolene Cured Completely.

Mrs. Chapman, 6, Granville Road, Maidstone, says:—"I knocked my leg and an ulcer formed. I went under treatment, and for a whole year I attended daily for dressing, but there was no improvement, and the pain was awful. I couldn't sleep for it. Then I got Germolene, and actually it so

**GAS LEAKAGE WHILE
FAMILY SLEPT.
—♦—
BOY SAVES 13 LIVES.
—♦—
PROMPT ACTION THAT AVERTED
DISASTER.**

In the event of his mother's death the son will receive an annuity of £300 until he is 21.

"I'm
-tory. At
see I go
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"A."

£1,740,000 WORK SCHEMES.

IMPORTANT RAILWAY IMPROVEMENTS.

Important schemes which will effect material improvements in the lines are shortly to be put in hand by the London and Midland and Scottish Railway Company. The work, which is estimated to cost £1,740,000, will include:—

Widening of the line at Mirfield, and between Horbury and Wakefield, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, entailing the construction of a viaduct and 12 new bridges.

Station enlargements and improvements at St. Anne-on-Sea, Thornton (Lancs), Bangor, and Llandudno.

Reconstruction of station at Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, in connection with the electrification of the branch line from Watford.

When the latter is completed there will be a through service of electric trains from Euston and Broad-st. to Rickmansworth.

WORK IN HAND.

Works already in hand include deepening Holyhead Harbour; a new line one mile 300 yards in length to serve a new coal pit between Wolverhampton and Cannock Chase; new station buildings at Walsall; bridges at Leigh (Lancs), and at Morecambe; and a new goods yard at Darlington (Staffordshire).

It is stated that other railway companies have equally important improvement schemes under consideration, but are not yet in a position to make a public announcement.

CUTICURA HEALS SCALP TROUBLE

Red Spots Over Top of Baby's Head. Hair Fell Out.

"My baby's trouble began with tiny red spots of a wet nature on the top of her head, just over the forehead, which in a short time spread to her head and formed a dry scale. It also affected her eyebrows and her hair all fell out. The breaking out was very disagreeable and irritated the baby's skin."

"The trouble lasted about two months before I began using Cuticura Ointment and after a fortnight the skin was healthy and the hair began to grow again."

(Signed) Mrs. E. Adams, Mill Rd., Oxn. Cambs., Eng.

Cuticura Soap to cleanse and purify. Cuticura Ointment to soothe and heal. Is ideal for all toilet purposes.

Sole in Britain, 24, and in U.S.A. Sold by all druggists. Write for free literature. Cuticura Soap and Ointment made in U.S.A.

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THE PRINCE AND WORKERS.

TOUR OF YORKSHIRE AND MIDLANDS.

A letter was read at the last meeting of the Sheffield City Council from Captain Lascelles, assistant private secretary to the Prince of Wales, stating that the Prince will visit the city on May 29.

The letter added:—

"But I am to make it clear that as little expense as possible shall be incurred on account of his visit, and that if the Prince is asked to go over any of your important works it is the staff and the employees whom he primarily wishes to see and not the plant."

The Prince will make a three-days' tour of the Midlands, commencing on June 11. Places he will visit include: Sheffield, Bradford, Rotherham, Harrogate, York, Birmingham, Coventry, Wolverhampton.

He will attend York races on May 31.

HEADS IN CAS OVENS.

TWO WOMEN FIND THEIR HUSBANDS DEAD.

Two women, living in the adjoining naval towns of Gillingham and Chatham, found their husbands lying dead, with their heads in cas ovens, when they came downstairs to prepare breakfast on Friday morning.

One of the victims was Samuel George Kirby (65), of Imperial Rd., Gillingham. He had been dressing an operation for cancer.

The other victim, Joseph Thomas Lowdell, of Wyndham-rd., Chatham, a middle-aged man working as an electrical fitter at the Royal Naval Hospital, had also been in ill-health.

BREAKFAST IN BED.

A story of breakfast served in bed at a London hotel was told to Justice Horridge during the evidence which resulted in Mrs. Elizabeth Gertrude Hepworth, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, being granted a decree nisi on the grounds of the legal desertion and misconduct of her husband, Walter D. Hepworth, who did not defend.

Mrs. Hepworth said she was married in December, 1915, and obtained a restitution decree in June, 1922.

Did you ever stay at the Charing Cross Hotel? she was asked by her counsel. "Never," was Mrs. Hepworth's emphatic reply.

William E. Webb, a waiter at the hotel, said that Mr. Hepworth arrived there with a lady in June last. Breakfast for two was ordered by the gentleman, and next morning, when witness took it up to the room, the couple were in bed. The woman was not Mrs. Hepworth.

The new motor-bus guide, issued by the London General Omnibus Company, is issued in the form of a pocket-booklet, and a map, containing 200 bus routes, list of roads traversed, and districts served.

CRIMMER LAMB PUZZLE.

EXPERTS IN FUR COAT CASE.

Fur experts from various West End stores gave evidence at the resumed hearing at Marlborough-st. Police Court of the summons against Messrs. Charles Wayne, Ltd., Oxford-st., W., for selling a fur coat to which an alleged false trade description, "Crimmer Lamb," was applied.

The prosecution was at the instance of the London Fur Trade Association. At previous hearings it was alleged that a coat sold at 57s. 6d. as grey Crimmer lamb was made from "slink lamb," an inferior fur which was dyed grey to imitate Crimmer.

Mr. Travers Humphreys appeared for the prosecution, and Sir Edward Marshall-Hall, K.C., and Mr. Roland Oliver for the defence. Mr. William Bird, fur buyer to Harrods, said that he did not know of any custom in the retail fur trade to sell "Crimmer lamb" as such except Crimmer. He had never heard of Chinese "slink" lamb being described as Crimmer lamb.

Sir E. Marshall-Hall put in a piece of fur which he said had been bought at Harrods and described as Crimmer lamb. Such a description as Crimmer lamb was not authorised. Counsel next produced an invoice issued by this firm, on which it was described as "Crimmer lamb, grey colour, three guineas."

Sir Edward also quoted a telegram received at Harrods asking for two yards of Crimmer lamb trimming at 12s. 6d. a yard, and that Messrs. Harrods interpreted the order as sending slink lamb. Mr. Bird said he could not account for this.

Mr. Allan Bruce, advisory director to Messrs. Debenhams and Freshdy, said that his firm sold slink lamb but never advertised or ticketed it as "Crimmer lamb."

When shown two invoices from his firm he said that the description "slink lamb" was entirely unauthorised.

When a seven guinea coat was brought forward, Mr. Bruce said no one could mistake it for real Crimmer, and he was heard of as "slink lamb" by any price," he added.

The case for the prosecution having closed, Sir Edward submitted that upon the evidence there was no case to answer. This was a false trade description. It might be a false description, but not a false trade description.

Mr. Mead (the magistrate): That is a very strong argument, but I don't think it is an argument upon which I could stop the case.

The first witness for the defence was Mr. Reuben Lippman, skin merchant, of Bow-lane. He said he supplied slink lamb to the Crimmer lamb at 2s. 6d. to the wholesale trade. He received them from New York, where they were called Crimmer lamb, although they did not come from the Crimmer.

The hearing was adjourned until Jan. 25.

MARRIED FOR A WEEK.

RHINE SOLDIER'S UNHAPPY VENTURE.

A week's honeymoon was the extent of the married life of Sgt. Jack Smith, of the Royal Air Force, who married Arthur T. Hurford as co-respondent in his divorce proceedings, which were undefended.

A week after his marriage in March, 1922, Sgt. Smith, to Justice Horridge, he returned to the Rhine Army. Four months later his wife wrote saying she would have nothing more to do with him.

He obtained a special leave in August, 1922, and came home. His wife then repeated to him what she had stated in the letter.

Mr. Albert Charles Smith, of Garfield-rd., Lavender Hill, South London, brother of petitioner, said he made inquiries on behalf of his brother and went to a house where co-respondent's mother lived in Alexandra-rd., Leyton, E., on June 2, 1922.

"When I knocked" (said the witness) "my sister-in-law opened the door. I said I had called to know if she was living there with Mr. Hurford. She replied that she was. Hurford was not at home then."

Edwin Everett, a solicitor's managing clerk, stated that he went to Hertford-rd., Clapham Junction, in May last year, and served Mrs. Smith with the papers in these proceedings.

On July 6, 1922, co-respondent made an appointment by letter, and when served with the divorce papers exclaimed: "What am I to do with these?"

"I told him," said witness, "that if he had any defence he had better consult a solicitor."

He said, "There is no defence. I have lived with her (Mrs. Smith), but we quarrelled and are not living together now."

The landlord of the house in Hertford-rd., said Mrs. Smith and co-respondent were living together in the name of Burford. During 1921 Mrs. Burford spent alternate weekends with co-respondent's mother at Alexandra-rd., Leyton.

Counsel: There is a letter from him to the husband apologising for his conduct. In the letter co-respondent says that he only "intervened" after the break had occurred between husband and wife.

The Judge: Yes, that is enough. Decree nisi and costs.

WIFE AT FIFTEEN.

DIVORCE SEQUEL TO BOY AND GIRL MARRIAGE.

Ralph Thomas Langdon, an Edinburgh musician, obtained a decree of divorce in the Edinburgh Court of Session against his wife, Katherine Cairns Langdon, at a camp on which he was married about five years ago when she was 15 and he was 21.

The reason for the decree was the wife's misconduct with Reginald Russell, a married medical student from South Africa, at a camp on the beach at Gullane, Haddingtonshire, last summer.

Costs were given against Mr. Russell.

HEADMASTER AND HIS WIFE.

HOTEL SUICIDE.

AMAZING LETTERS; BODY SOLD TO PAY DEBTS.

"You can tell the fisherman that he is the indirect cause of our unhappy life..." This was one of the extracts from a series of letters left behind by Mr. Otto Bowman, aged 40, a former headmaster of the High School, Brentwood, Surrey.

Bowman was found shot in his bedroom at the Hotel Belgravia, West London, and died after being admitted to St. George's Hospital.

A verdict of "Suicide" while of unsound mind" was returned by Mr. Ingleby Oddie at the inquest at Westminster.

The evidence showed that three bullet wounds had been inflicted from the revolver and two cartridges had missed fire. Bowman had evidently missed himself once.

DEATH OF THE CORNER.

Sgt. Edward Nicholls, the coroner's official, stated that Mr. Bowman had been living at Hampton, where he had furnished rooms, and owed about 25s. to the landlady. He had been drinking very heavily.

On one occasion when he had delirium tremens very badly he rushed downstairs into the living-room of the house and threatened to shoot everyone and himself as well, having delusions that people were following him.

Mr. Bowman then went back to his bedroom and smashed the wash-stand and other furniture. He left the house, and nothing was seen or heard of him until his landlady received a letter from him from the Hotel Belgravia, saying that he was "going to end it all."

In answer to the coroner, Sgt. Nicholls said the landlady at Hampton said that Mr. Bowman was living with a sea captain at Guernsey. Bowman often said in his drunken ravings that his present position was due to her.

The coroner stated that amongst the man's effects was found a book written by himself describing his own life. From that it appeared that he was born in Switzerland, and followed various occupations. Then he went to Germany, and later he walked from Hamburg to Paris.

In Paris he got employment and eventually obtained some kind of qualification which enabled him to start teaching. He then came over to England and wandered about from place to place, sometimes teaching, sometimes tramping. At one time he ran his own school.

The coroner added the following letter written by Bowman from the Belgravia Hotel to his former landlady:—

"I am sorry to say that my life is no longer good to anyone. I am going to dispose of it in this hotel to-night."

Another letter to the superintendent of police contained the following:—

"I want you to offer my body to some medical school in London for dissection on condition that the sum of £10 be paid in order to meet some of my liabilities. I also suggest that you should send an officer to the above address and put a seal on all my property or remove it at once. They are valued, roughly speaking, at about £20. The cash-box should be sent to my wife."

The letter went on to say that he had been half mad, and that under such conditions a verdict of "Suicide while temporarily insane" was perfectly justifiable.

"I have told the letter to your Lordship, and if you commit suicide you do murder, but I cannot agree with that. God does not wish us to suffer in the way so many do suffer, and as my body belongs to me I can do with it as I please."

A letter addressed to Mrs. Bowman was read by the coroner as follows:—

"I have sold my body to one of the London hospitals for dissection, and I am the indirect cause of our unhappy married life and my death."

The coroner (to Sgt. Nicholls): Is that the man she was living with? Yes.

FIRST AND LAST LOVE.

GARNEY WILL NOT BOBBY MOTHER FOR A WIFE.

Addressing his tenants at Coleorton, North Leicestershire, Sir George Beaumont, Bart., stated that he had never married because he had not met a woman he could love better than his mother.

Interviewed afterwards, Sir George said that though his confession was "in a holey way," it was quite true.

"Of course," he added, "it can equally be said that I have not got married because marriage has not come my way. But there is still time, and I hope for the best."

"At present I am fonder of the life I am living and fonder of sport."

Sir George Beaumont, who is 42, claims descent in direct male line from King Louis VII. of France.

Sir George's mother, who shares his ivy-covered country house, has endeavored herself to the tenantry by her acts of charity.

REJECTED BRIDES.

INDEMNITIES OFFERED TO CITY OFFICIALS.

Attempts to bribe two officials of the Bath City Corporation were disclosed when John Lane (49), of Lydney, Gloucestershire, a representative of the Remington Typewriter Company, was convicted at Bath of offering considerations to Kenneth Hopkins, chief clerk in the Education Department, and Alfred Mason, an official in the town clerk's office, as an inducement to place orders for Remington machines.

It was alleged after it had been intimated to him that an order was likely to be given to another firm, Love, in shaking hands with Hopkins, endeavored to transfer to him a Treasury note, which Hopkins refused. He also offered to give Mason an old machine for the favour of the order.

Love was fined £2 10s. in each case.

A ROOF GARDEN VIEW.

INTERRUPTED LETTER AND THE SEQUEL.

Quarrels over money, a scene at the Labour Ministry Office, the husband's association in China with a woman who lived on the fringe of society in Tientsin, an accidental meeting in London—such were the chief incidents in a remarkable story told to Justice Horridge.

His lordship granted the petitioning wife, Mrs. Dorothy Emily Crawford, now living at Lake Como, Italy, a decree nisi against her husband, Mr. Oswald S. Crawford, whom she married at Tonbridge Registry Office in 1912. There were two children of the union.

Giving evidence in support of her allegations of cruelty and misconduct Mrs. Crawford said that while living at Ashburton-rd., Addiscombe (Surrey), her husband demanded money, threatened her, and tried to strangle her.

She worked at the Ministry of Labour in London, and on one occasion her husband rang her up at the Ministry and demanded money.

She refused to supply him, and he came and created a scene outside and called her abusive names in the presence of a crowd which collected.

On another occasion when she met him unexpectedly at Charing Cross Station he again asked for money, and when she refused he followed her as far as Shaftesbury-avenue.

LEICESTER-SQUARE INCIDENT.

In November, 1918, when they were walking in Leicester-sq., London, her husband was accosted by a woman, and when she asked who the woman was he flung her down. Her arm and ankle were injured.

Later, her husband got a position in China and she joined him there in November, 1920. She surprised him writing a letter which, on seeing her, he crumpled up and threw away.

She recovered it and found it began "Dearest Betty," and that it made an appointment for the afternoon.

"Betty" was Mrs. E. Fiske Leitch, a woman who started on the fringe of society in Tientsin and was gradually attracted to the wife of her husband, who was a doctor.

Their house in Tientsin had a roof garden, continued Mrs. Crawford, and while she was sitting up there in May and June, 1921, she frequently saw her husband go to Mrs. Leitch's house, where he would stay for two or three hours.

One evening in May, Mrs. Crawford said, she was on her verandah and saw Mrs. Leitch's motor-car go towards the town. Later she saw Mrs. Leitch and Mr. Crawford returning in it, and Mrs. Leitch was in Mrs. Crawford's arms.

In November, 1921, Mrs. Crawford said she came to England, and the following June she met her husband accidentally in London.

He confessed to his relations with Mrs. Leitch and asked for forgiveness. She refused to forgive him. Mrs. Crawford was granted the custody of the children.

FEARED DEATH.

HUSBAND'S SICK-BED LETTER TO OTHER WOMAN.

A dramatic story of a husband who, fearing that death was at hand, was overcome by remorse for the "other woman," was told by Mrs. Susanna Harman, of Brighton-rd., Suburban, who was granted a divorce from her husband, Thomas James Harman.

Mrs. Harman told Justice Horridge that she had for some years to complain of her husband's association with a Miss Harriet Eliza Disney.

In June, 1922, when she was nursing her husband for influenza, which it was feared might prove fatal, he asked her to write and tell the woman Disney about his illness.

When she refused, he scribbled a few lines and addressed them to her. The following day Miss Disney went to the house, but Mrs. Harman refused to admit her.

When he recovered, her husband, said the wife, admitted that he was responsible for the woman's condition.

WIFE'S SECRET.

REFUSAL TO DISCLOSE LOVER'S NAME.

He was married during the war and had to complain soon afterwards of his wife's association with other men, but when asked to disclose the name of the lover, he refused to do so.

Mr. de Vane said he first hung the overcoat on a chair, but moved it for a woman to sit down, and hung it in a rack in the "Mirror Hall."

When he went for it it had gone. Mrs. Lyons expressed their regret, but pointed out that notices were exhibited repudiating responsibility for loss.

Judgment was given for Messrs. Lyons.

METHODIST UNION.

TWO TO ONE MAJORITY IN FAVOUR OF COVENANTS.

The voting at the Wesleyan quarterly meetings on the proposed Methodist union has resulted in a two to one majority in favour of union, the figures (according to the "Methodist Recorder") being:—

Circuits. Members.
For union 477 30,150
Against 176 9,960
Neutral 1,567

By direction of the Wesleyan conference the trustees of the 5,000 churches and chapels have now to consider the scheme.

An opinion obtained on behalf of certain of the trustees from Mr. Holman Gregory, K.C., states that:—

1. Unless the trustees of Wesleyan Methodists are practically unanimous in their desire to support the scheme, they should themselves be trustees for Wesleyan Methodists, and the same and ask the Wesleyan conference not to proceed therewith.

2. The scheme does not sufficiently safeguard the standard of doctrine of the Wesleyan Methodist Church and the Wesleyan Methodist chapels and buildings.

TO BUSINESS BY BIKE.

TRAFFIC POINTS.

(By "Whisper.")

Lighting-up Time To-day 4.40 a.m.

Most cyclists engaged in business commute on a bicycle at least times the idea of riding to and from their work, and so saving rail and tram fares. If one rides regularly and consistently, there is, of course, no doubt that the riding is intermittent. To most suburban commuters, however, the bicycle is a means of saving time and money, and the saving is not made for health. A regular rider to work should have the opportunity of changing at least once a week, and the change should be made in all weathers is rather hard on clothes and a good suit rapidly deteriorates. It is a pity that the bicycle presents an appearance of shabbiness that all employers do not care to see in their employees, especially in large London offices.

If you live in the country, or your work is of a nature which does not call for very careful dressing, by all means ride to your work. It is a good habit, and the ride home or on a day's sedentary work will prove a wonderful tonic and do you know, it is a little of a question of what your position is. One would not expect a bank manager or an insurance manager to wear a bicycle to work, but the outdoor worker or the junior clerk might very well be able to do so, and even if he did not, it would be a good habit to have. It is a little of a question of what your position is. One would not expect a bank manager or an insurance manager to wear a bicycle to work, but the outdoor worker or the junior clerk might very well be able to do so, and even if he did not, it would be a good habit to have.

Do not be deterred by the traffic bogey. With a little sense and practice you should soon be able to manage. Always remember that the traffic is your enemy, and that it is better to dismount and walk than to get in and out and try to pass a car or a lorry. It is a good habit to have, and it is a good habit to have.

At a recent meeting of the Auto Cycle Union the question of cyclists' rights was fully debated. The meeting recognized that there were many noisy motor-cycles and expressed its willingness to consider a standard siren, approved by the police authorities, but considered that the standard siren should be approved that there should be no procession under the existing order.

Mr. Lionel Rogers, who may be considered an expert on the subject of bicycles, has invented a simple tilting device which can be attached by a motor cyclist to his handlebars, and at a very slight cost.

The effect of the extensive advertising done by the leading companies selling motor-cycles has resulted in a large number of motor-cycles being sold, and the result is that the motor-cyclist is now a common sight on the roads, and the result is that the motor-cyclist is now a common sight on the roads.

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